

memorializing other prominent citizens, especially monarchs. In the context of the “Edinburgh” Gardens, named in honour of the royal heir, it is even more significant. The plinth should be retained and conserved and the statue reinstated, based on the photographic evidence available. While the original statue reportedly was of timber, it would be preferable to reconstruct any new statuary in more durable masonry.

2. *Maintain an appropriate setting for the statue.*

It would be desirable to recreate an appropriate setting for the statue. Early photographs and plans of the area indicate that two of the four original diagonal paths surrounding the feature have been removed and it is desirable that they be reconstructed to their original layout. While the plinth presently sits in a shrub bed, which was reconstructed from photographic evidence in 1972, the planting is poor in quality and condition as a consequence of vandalism. Refer to Section 6.5.33 for policy relating to the shrub bed surrounding the statue.

6.5.13 Ladies Bowling Club and Green

1. *Remove the Ladies Bowling Club clubhouse.*

As an intrusive element and in poor condition, the Ladies Bowling Club clubhouse detracts from the Gardens and is of no significance. It is located in a visually conspicuous area and should be removed. Should the bowling green area be redeveloped for a new sporting use, such as croquet or bocce, then a small, well-designed pavilion could be introduced onto the site. There is no heritage reason why these uses could not be located in this area.

2. *Maintain and upgrade or remove the ladies bowling green*

Should the area be redeveloped then it should be substantially upgraded and maintained. It is desirable, however, that if no new use can be found for the area, that it be removed and returned to parkland in line with its pre-1948 layout. Should fencing be required for the security of any new greens or facilities, it should be of a design which is sympathetic to the character of the gardens and one which would enable the site to be integrated with the surrounding gardens, such as a steel palisade fence.

6.5.14 Emily Baker Infant Welfare Centre

Retain or remove the Infant Welfare Centre as required.

As an intrusive element located in a highly conspicuous position on the edge of the Gardens, the Infant Welfare Centre detracts from the Gardens environs. It is desirable that prior to, or once the facilities reach the end of their useful economic life, the facilities be relocated to another site completely or incorporated into a well-designed building as part of a broader rationalisation of facilities and buildings in the Gardens. (Refer to the Master Plan) If it must be retained in its present location, it should be substantially upgraded and maintained. If the centre is to be relocated, the existing area should be returned to its former late nineteenth century nature which would enable the reconstruction of the former fountain and surrounding path network which are considered to be highly desirable.

6.5.15 Former Gardener’s Residence

Retain or remove the former gardener’s residence as required.

While the building provides much-used community facilities and it is located on the site of an earlier gardener’s residence, it is intrusive in its character, design and siting, detracting from the surrounding garden environs. It is desirable that the functions housed within the building be

consolidated into a well-designed building as part of a broader rationalisation of facilities and buildings in the Gardens and the existing building be demolished. Long term re-use of the area as a site for future building development is not inappropriate, given that it has been the site of a building since the 1870s. If budgetary constraints dictate that the building must be retained in its present form temporarily, then it should be substantially upgraded and appropriately landscaped.

6.5.16 Former Nursery and Depot Site

Create an appropriate garden environment on demolition of the former nursery and depot.

At the time of writing this report, the intrusive and run down nursery and depot facilities are an eyesore and are being demolished. It is proposed to return the area to grassed parkland, which is an appropriate interim solution. Long term re-use of the area as a site for future building development is not inappropriate, given that it has been the site of buildings and structures since the late nineteenth century. There are considerable opportunities to consolidate facilities and to introduce well-designed buildings within this section of the Gardens.

6.5.17 Centenary Pavilion

Retain and maintain or remove the Centenary Pavilion as required.

Although the pavilion is of no historical significance, or aesthetic merit it provides necessary toilet and changing facilities to the adjoining playing fields and gardens. The facility may be maintained or replaced as required, however the opportunity exists in this case to introduce a high quality well-designed facility which enhances the area. Should it be retained into the foreseeable future, due to budgetary constraints then it should be adequately maintained and improvements could be made to its general appearance such as screen planting.

6.5.18 Public Toilets

Retain and maintain or remove the public toilets as required.

Although the public toilets are of no historical significance, the building provides necessary toilet facilities to the Gardens. The facility may be maintained or replaced as required. The building itself is rather intrusive in its location and design and consideration should be given to adopting a plan similar to that employed by the City of Melbourne, whereby public toilet facilities are of an appropriate historicist design and siting takes into account public safety and accessibility.

6.5.19 Skate Park

1. Retain and maintain or remove the skate park as required.

While the skate park is of recent origins, it is presently one of the most heavily used facilities in the Gardens. Its location is fairly conspicuous and, as such, it should be maintained in good condition if it is to remain in this area. The facility could occupy this, or other areas within the Gardens, such as the former railway siding / National Can site, where there would be greater scope to enlarge the facility and cause less impact on the nineteenth century character of the formal garden environs.

2. *Maintain an appropriate setting for the skate park.*

At present there is considerable damage and vandalism to the perimeter fence of the facility, which requires annual replacement and is often unsightly and in poor condition. The fence does not appear to have any practical purpose. Consideration should be given to removing the fence altogether or replacing it with a low grassed mound which would not only serve to partially screen the facility but contain the activities within the immediate area and provide informal amphitheatre seating from which to observe skaters.

6.5.20 Playgrounds

Retain and maintain or remove the playgrounds as required.

While the fabric of the playgrounds is relatively new and of no historic significance, playground facilities have been part of the Gardens since 1925 and remain popular. If retained, regular maintenance should be undertaken to ensure they remain in good condition. It is recommended that no additional playground areas be introduced to the Gardens as the two facilities are well spaced and located. Equipment can be changed / upgraded as required and in accordance with the appropriate standards.

6.5.21 Basketball Court

Retain and maintain or remove the basketball court as required.

While the basketball court is of no historical significance and in average condition, it has the potential to provide a popular facility within the Gardens. The court is currently under utilised due to its poor surface condition and size. Consideration should be given to either removing the court or upgrading it to include an improved playing surface and hoops. The size could also be enlarged to provide the appropriate size for basketball and two netball courts over the same area.

6.5.22 Shelter

Preferably remove the shelter and consider reconstruction of the original gazebo.

While the shelter replaces an earlier gazebo in the same location, the present structure is ugly in design and of no historical significance. It is recommended that the existing shelter be removed. Consideration could be given to reconstruction of the original gazebo, which should be based on the available photographic evidence.

6.5.23 Path System

1. *Retain and maintain the formal pathway layouts and surface treatment.*

The majority of formal paths are generally significant elements of the landscape and layout, with most sections dating from 1883 and the early 1900s. The paths and associated avenues contribute to the nineteenth century character of the place, particularly the northern, eastern and western quadrants of the site. The significance is related to the layout and overall design, rather than the actual fabric of the paths themselves with the exception of some remnants of early basalt edging. The asphalt surface, while not the earliest, is consistent, is an appropriate finish, is reflective of an early treatment and should be retained. All paths should undergo regular maintenance and be properly constructed and drained so as to avoid cracking and ponding of water.

2. *Reinstate realigned section of north-south path.*

The southern end of the main north-south path alignment was altered during the 1930s and the more recent redevelopment of the eastern edge of the cricket ground has meant that its reinstatement is unlikely in the near future. Should, however, re-planning of this area take place, then it is preferable that the original path alignment be reinstated.

3. *Generally develop a consistent edge treatment to all pathways.*

Edge treatments vary from nothing, to early basalt rock edging, to later bluestone pitchers and concrete kerbs and gutters. The remnant basalt rock edging is significant as a rare surviving early path edging and should be retained and raised / reconstructed where it has subsided. While the bluestone gutter pitchers are not an early treatment, they are an appropriately low-key and non-intrusive solution, provided that they finish flush with the abutting lawns and paving. The concrete kerbs are intrusive and out of character with the overall character of the site and should be removed. They could be replaced with shallow bluestone pitched drains if required. Recent laying of pitchers has involved excessive use of mortar to create a straight edged appearance which is at odds with the variation of the originals and should be avoided in the future.

4. *Reinstate the removed diagonal path from the Queen Victoria statue.*

The pair of diagonal pathways were constructed c. 1901, following the installation of the statue, however one was more recently removed. While there would appear to be no remnant planting to reinforce its alignment, its reconstruction would reinforce the significance of the Queen Victoria statue site.

5. *Reinstate the removed diagonal paths from the former fountain.*

Should the former fountain in the northern section of the Gardens be reinstated, it is desirable that the removed path system associated with the feature be reconstructed.

6. *Reinstate the removed path around the eastern portion of Alfred Crescent.*

An interesting feature of the Gardens' planning is the former circuitous path flanking Alfred Crescent. While some of this path remains, other areas have been removed and it is recommended that they be reconstructed.

6.5.24 Bluestone Drain

1. *Remove the open bluestone drain and replace with underground drainage.*

The open bluestone drain would appear to have been constructed in c.1891 in response to the overflow of cesspit waste which flowed into the Edinburgh Gardens. Given that the drainage problem has been solved and given that there is nothing of particular interest in its fabric or construction, it could be removed or retained as required. In its present form it poses a safety issue and could be replaced with underground drainage.

6.5.25 Sundry Items

1. *Maintain an adequate level of general lighting.*

The provision of lighting in the Gardens is more related to amenity and safety rather than any identified historical precedent. It is essential to maintain an adequate level of general lighting and this should be undertaken in line with the plan prepared by John Patrick Pty Ltd in 1999. The existing lighting would appear to be of no historical value other than for the gas standards

surrounding the Rotunda and the remnant cast iron lanterns, yet it serves a required function. However overall, lighting is inconsistent in design and placement. It is recommended that a new, well-designed system of lighting be prepared and installed which replaces the existing standards, highlights garden features and provides additional lights where there is a shortfall.

Given the historical nature and formalised nineteenth century character of the Gardens in terms of built form, elements of infrastructure and the landscape, there are two approaches which could be taken and which are in accord with the *Burra Charter*. The first is that fittings could be reproduction cast iron Victorian models in the garden areas with strong nineteenth century character. They should be manufactured showing their date. This approach would build upon and reinforce the nineteenth century character and ambience of this section of the Gardens and the approach previously adopted with regard to restoration of and reconstruction of missing and/or original elements. It would also be consistent with other recommendations in this report with regard to reinstatement of missing features. This approach would require contemporary fittings to be installed elsewhere, such as in the sporting areas where the nineteenth century character has been dissipated. The alternative approach would be to install contemporary fittings throughout the Gardens which would present as a uniform approach throughout and in recognition that the provision of lighting is a practical requirement. The new fittings would be clearly of modern design and would be consistent throughout the Gardens. They could be replaced at any point in time as required. Depending upon their location, they may provide general light or floodlight to illuminate playing surfaces.

2. *Retain and maintain or replace the garden furniture as required.*

While the majority of the furniture in the Gardens is of a contemporary nature, it is an eclectic collection with regard to design, and much is in average to poor condition. A policy of providing standard, contemporary items of a matching suite should be investigated, with the long-term goal being to replace all of the existing furniture in the same approach as taken to the lighting (See above).

A variety of bollard types exist throughout the site, including historic cast iron City of Fitzroy bollards and contemporary City of Yarra types. The use of reproduction cast iron bollards of the historic standard Fitzroy City Council design is encouraged in order to maintain a the historical connection with the former administrators of the Gardens. This approach would be consistent with the ‘Victorian’ approach suggested above in relation to the lights and seats.

3. *Introduce new sporting infrastructure only if it does not adversely impact on heritage values.*

If the sporting facilities are to remain popular and viable, there will be demands from time-to-time to introduce new elements, for example a scoreboard, lighting, nets and the like. Generally these types of elements are acceptable depending upon their precise location, scale, bulk and design and the impact that they may have on any particular heritage values. They would need to be assessed on a case-by-case basis and in reference to the conservation policies and strategies and also the masterplan.

6.5.26 Bluestone Retaining Wall

Maintain the bluestone retaining wall to Alfred Crescent.

While the present wall is of no significance, it is unobtrusive and serves a functional role. It is, however, poorly constructed with wide mortar joints, and it is recommended that it be reconstructed with an appropriate joint size and mortar colour.

6.5.27 Captain Cook Memorial

Retain or remove the Captain Cook Memorial as required.

The Captain Cook memorial is of recent origin and no historical significance specifically to the Gardens. It can be retained and maintained or removed as required. Refer to the general policy on monuments and memorial structures in Section 6.4.8.

6.5.28 Principal Avenue Plantings

1. *Retain Elm and Oak avenues*

Retain and conserve the existing Elm and Oak avenues as a major feature of the early layout of the Gardens and as an important component of their structure. They define the various spaces which make up the Gardens and provide a setting or backdrop for other features. Much of the distinctive character of the Edinburgh Gardens is attributable to the presence of these avenues and it is important that they be retained and renewed as necessary, in accordance with City of Yarra tree management standards.

2. *Re-establish avenue plantings along pathways where early plantings have been lost or replaced by inappropriate species.*

There are gaps in some of the principal avenue plantings where sections have been lost, such as the central link in the east-west path linking Brunswick Street and Rowe Street, and the north-south avenue on the west side of the site of the former Ladies Bowling Green. In other locations, early plantings have been replaced with species which are not appropriate to the scale, character or period of the original avenues creating a discordant element. An example of this is the diagonal avenue of Purple Leaf Plum (*Prunus x blieriana*) in the north-west of the Gardens. It is desirable to replant these sections with specimens from the same taxa as the principal avenues, to reinstate the integrity and character of the avenues, and to re-establish the formal structure of the Gardens.

3. *Develop long term strategies for tree-replacement to all avenues. Consult with the community prior to removal of trees in the principal avenues and rows.*

All trees eventually senesce (advanced decline prior to death). It is desirable that a long term replacement strategy be prepared to ensure the progressive regeneration and replacement of avenue plantings on a managed basis. This approach also has the advantage of reducing the possibility of sudden tree loss on a broad scale as would occur if the bulk of the trees were permitted to approach senescence at a similar time, causing a devastating impact on the Gardens. The preparation of a long-term replacement strategy is particularly important at Edinburgh Gardens where the aesthetic and structural character of the Gardens is highly dependent on a single species (*Elm Ulmus x hollandica*) which is of uniform age. Authoritative opinion on Elm longevity suggests that a healthy lifespan of 100 to 150 years is probably a realistic expectation for most elms in Australia, provided they are maintained well. As most of the Elm population is now over 100 years old, a replacement strategy should be programmed to achieve a full replanting over the next 50 years.

The following is suggested as an appropriate approach for preparation of such a strategy. It is based on the premise that avenues, and rows, are most effective in appearance when all trees are

of the same age. This does not mean that all avenues, or rows, in the Gardens should be planted at the same time. The most effective approach is to have a range of different age avenues or sections of avenues. A less successful approach is to remove and replant every second tree so that some old trees are retained as alternating specimens in the short term. The latter are subsequently removed and replanted after say 5 years. This approach is less successful because the growth of the young trees is adversely affected by overshadowing and root competition from the mature trees.

Proposed strategy principles:

- €# Remove individual trees when irreparably damaged, diseased or dead or when the maintenance costs exceed their amenity value: removal includes stump grinding to 300mm below the surface.
- €# Do not fill gaps in avenues where trees are more than 30 years old.
- €# Remove trees when gaps in sections of the avenue exceed 30% of the original number of trees, unless there is a need for earlier replacement caused by extensive damage or dieback.
- €# Replace avenues by clear-felling sections between cross paths or a minimum of 8 pairs of trees.
- €# Replant avenues on a staged basis so that replacement is achieved progressively while sustaining the amenity of the Gardens.
- €# Stage the replanting program over the next 50 years to establish a good range of tree age groups and achieve a full replacement before the expiry of the expected tree lifespan.
- €# New trees shall be the same taxon as those removed, unless there is a good reason for an alternative. Given the dominance of Elm (*Ulmus x hollandica*) in the Gardens, and the vulnerability of this species to Dutch Elm Disease, which has decimated overseas populations, it is desirable that the strategy introduce at least some taxa that are resistant to this disease. This will reduce the risk of sudden catastrophic loss should the disease infect the Gardens tree population at some point in the future. This is not to say that all Elms should be progressively replaced. This species forms an important and significant feature of the Gardens and its presence should be retained. However, it would be foolish for the Gardens' aesthetic and structural dependence to rely on a single and vulnerable species. Alternative taxa for the Elms should be of a similar aesthetic character, with canopied deciduous foliage. Possible alternatives include (*Zelkova serrata*), Hackberry (*Celtis australis*), and Chinese Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*).
- €# Plant new trees at the same spacing as the trees removed.
- €# Replacement trees should be advanced stock, preferably about 5 years old, so that they are of reasonable size and scale. This will provide greater assurance of successful establishment and trees will be less prone to vandalism yet physiologically suited to establishment. It will also enable a sense of avenue to be achieved immediately increasing the likelihood of public acceptance.
- €# Trees should be contract-grown and prepared in a nursery specifically for the Edinburgh Gardens. Trees should be grown in the nursery at the same spacing as their eventual avenue spacings, to avoid narrow canopy effects if grown too close. A number of trees from the same batch should be grown on in the nursery so that if replacements are required within 5 years of replacement planting, suitable plants are available.

A vital part of the strategy management is to inform the public and explain the need for the action prior to removal:

4. *Maintain the avenues to the highest standards*

Maintenance of existing trees should be to the highest standards and should include:

- ## An annual inspection and condition report covering crown, trunk and root system and detailing any disease, damage or faults.
- ## Implementation of a management program for specific trees based on the findings of the annual inspection.
- ## Routine maintenance as required including removal of unsafe branches, dead-wooding, structural cabling, canopy reduction repair of damage caused by storms or other reasons
- ## Soil amelioration and reduction of compaction to root zones.
- ## Pest control programs for possums, Elm Leaf Beetle and other diseases.
- ## Maintaining root zones clear of all competing plants such as other tree species and shrubs, except grass, unless tree condition requires mulching of root zones.

6.5.29 **Perimeter Planting**

1. *Retain the perimeter planting of Brachychiton species.*

A perimeter row of tree planting is a traditional feature of the Garden interface to Alfred Crescent. The existing planting along St Georges Road and the northern part of Alfred Crescent, although dating from the early decades of the twentieth century, is also notable as an unusual example of a Kurrajong (*Brachychiton populneus*) row planting in Melbourne. The row has been recently extended and existing gaps replanted along the south-eastern perimeter using Illawarra Flame Tree (*B. acerifolia*). The latter species is closely related to the Kurrajongs being another Australian native and a member of the same genus. It represents a suitable complementary species which appears to be responding well to the conditions, and when mature will provide a spectacular floral display. Plantings of this species are unusual in Melbourne's parks. These plantings provide structural definition to the boundary of the Gardens as well as a sense of enclosure.

2. *Progressively replace other species with Brachychiton.*

Several sections of the perimeter planting along St Georges Road and Alfred Crescent contain species other than the Kurrajongs or the Illawarra Flame Trees and disrupt the consistency and distinctive character of the row. This includes the Ash (*Fraxinus sp.*) opposite the primary school and some Brush Box (*Lophostemon confertus*) in vicinity of Falconer and Rowe Streets, as well as several Elms (*Ulmus sp*) opposite Jamieson Street. When any specimens fail or decline, replacements should be either Kurrajongs, especially in the north where they have done well, or Illawarra Flame Tree, concentrated to the south where they appear to be establishing successfully.

3. *Replace poor Kurrajong specimens with Illawarra Flame Tree specimens.*

South of Rowe Street, many Kurrajong specimens have not responded well to the conditions and have not reached their full potential despite what is thought to be a long period of establishment. Their small scale is inappropriate to the position and it is suggested that as the nearby Illawarra Flame trees reach an appreciable scale, Kurrajong specimens which lack vigour or are stunted, should be removed and replaced with Illawarra Flame trees. This replacement could be undertaken at an early stage in any tree replacement programme so that the new trees will not be substantially different in age from the existing Illawarra Flame trees, enabling the row, as a whole, to achieve a relatively consistent appearance.

An essential step in the management process for tree replacements is to inform the public in advance of any removals and explain the need for the action.

4. *Develop a long term strategy for tree replacement of the perimeter plantings.*

A long term strategy should be developed to ensure that the perimeter plantings are progressively replaced on a similar basis to the avenue planting strategy. (Refer to Section 6.5.28).

5. *Retain the perimeter planting around W T Peterson Community Oval*

Recent row plantings of London Plane (*Platanus x acerifolia*) have been established along the Brunswick Street and Freeman Street frontages, with another row of Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*) and Red Oak (*Q. rubra*) around the W T Peterson Community Oval. While these plantings are not of heritage significance they should be retained for the structural definition they provide to this edge of the Gardens, the enclosure given to the oval space, and for the enhanced appearance they contribute to this vicinity.

6. *Maintain tree rows to the highest standards*

Maintenance of all trees should be to the highest standards as outlined in Section 6.5.28.

6.5.30 Elm Circles and Elm Arc

1. *Retain the Elm Circles and Elm Arc*

Retain the Elm (*Ulmus x hollandica*) circles and the Elm arc as unusual and distinctive features of the early planting scheme for Edinburgh Gardens.

2. *Develop long term strategies for replacement of the circles and the arc.*

As the trees approach senescence they will need to be replaced. This process should be part of a general strategy for tree replacement in the Gardens. With respect to the circle and arc plantings a replacement strategy should be based on the following approach:

- ⌘ Replace the features in a progressive programme so that each feature is re-established before another is replaced.
- ⌘ Replace the entire feature by clear-felling so that new specimens are of the same age to achieve the most effective appearance. Grind stumps to 300mm below the surface to enable turf re-establishment.
- ⌘ Use advanced specimens of reasonable size and scale so that an immediate replacement effect is achieved.
- ⌘ Replace the circles and arc in the same locations as the existing features to retain the historic authenticity of the original layout and planting design.
- ⌘ Replant the same number of specimens at the same spacings as the existing features. Shift the position of the planting hole on the circle to avoid planting directly over any remnants of former root balls.
- ⌘ As all features are potentially vulnerable to Dutch Elm Disease consideration should be given to using alternative taxa to replace at least one of the existing circles so that in the event of a future infestation, not all of these planted features would be lost. (Refer to Section 6.5.28 for discussion of alternative Dutch Elm Disease resistant species).

3. *Maintain tree features, circles and arcs to the highest standards*

6.5.31 Specimen Trees

1. *Retain all significant specimen trees.*

A number of mature specimen trees make a significant contribution to the character of the Gardens or are significant examples of their species and should be retained. These include:

- €# 10 Holm Oaks (*Quercus ilex*) near the Rotunda Bandstand. One of the specimens is listed on the National Trust (Victoria) *Register of Significant Trees*. The planting forms a distinctive contrast of dark evergreen foliage against the light green of the deciduous Elms (*Ulmus x hollandica*) and the pale grey green of the Kurrajongs (*Brachychiton populneus*).
- €# Two large River Red Gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) at the northern end of the Gardens represent good examples of an indigenous species, though they are not remnant specimens.
- €# Two large Canary Island Pines (*Pinus canariensis*) in the north-east of the Gardens, and a single mature specimen of Deodar (*Cedrus deodar*) provide elements of dark evergreen foliage which mirrors the Holm Oak group in the north-west, and contrasts with the nearby Elms. They represent the only coniferous presence in the Gardens.

Retain all significant specimen trees using the highest maintenance standards unless irreparably damaged, dying, diseased or when maintenance costs exceed amenity value.

2. *Develop a long term replacement strategy for significant specimen trees.*

Replacement plantings of the above specimens should be carried out as part of a general tree replacement strategy whereby:

- €# The Holm Oaks to be replaced on a progressive basis over an extended period, for example 20 years, as they approach senescence. This process will not need to be initiated for some time as the species is potentially very long lived. Because of the relatively large number of trees in this group, specimens could be replaced either one at a time, where they are scattered, or in pairs, where they are close together, to allow better light penetration for re-establishment. By adopting a staged approach to replacement the visual impact of broad scale removal will be avoided.
- €# Replant replacement specimens of other significant trees in advance of senescence to enable establishment prior to removal of existing trees. Most existing specimens are scattered so that replanting in the general location can occur without impairing conditions for growth.
- €# Replace removed trees with the same species and generally in the same locality unless there is a sound reason not to do so eg. risk of disease or inappropriate growing conditions.
- €# Replant to retain existing planting patterns consistent with the established historic character of the Gardens.

3. *Provide for long-term replacement of the Southern Mahogany Gums with a more appropriate species.*

Six large Southern Mahogany Gums (*Eucalyptus botryoides*) represent a notable presence in the Gardens and contribute to the historic planting mix of exotic and native species. However, the species is not indigenous and is not well regarded as an ornamental specimen in Melbourne's public parks. It is suggested that:

- €# When replacement plantings are undertaken, a more appropriate eucalyptus species should be planted to retain the representation of the genus in the planting palette. A suitable substitute would be the River Red Gum (*E. camaldulensis*) which is indigenous to the area, and provides a living link with pre-European vegetation patterns. It would also augment the two specimens already present in the Gardens.
- €# Replacement planting should be carried out in advance of senescence of the existing Southern Mahogany Gums to enable establishment prior to removal of the existing specimens.
- €# Replacement plantings should be located on a scattered basis similar to the existing distribution and in similar numbers to existing specimens.

6.5.32 Dutch Elm Row east of Tennis Courts

Retain or remove the Dutch Elm Row east of the tennis courts as required.

The row is thought to have self-seeded along the former fenced boundary to the railway siding. The row is not considered to be of heritage significance. It is not aligned with the original path and avenue, and the specimens are poor examples of the taxon.

6.5.33 Planting Beds and Shrubberies

1. *Reinstate shrubbery bed around Queen Victoria memorial.*

The shrub bed around the Queen Victoria memorial forms an integral component of the heritage significance of this major feature within the Gardens. The planting carried out in the early 1990s has largely been lost through neglect and vandalism. Replant with reference to the historic plant forms and textures as indicated in historic photos of this element and reinstate the surrounding iron palisade fence. Refer to Section 6.5.12 for policy relating to the statue.

2. *Demolish conifer shrub bed.*

The shrub bed is a comparatively recent construction of no significance, while the planting of dwarf conifers is an anomalous element which is not consistent with the scale or character of the setting.¹

3. *Replace conifer shrub bed with either lawn or new water feature.*

It is suggested that the bed be demolished. It could either be returned to lawn, or alternatively would be a suitable location to reintroduce a water element into the Gardens. It is in the vicinity of the ornamental pond which was a feature in the early Gardens where the northern end of the Alfred Crescent primary school's oval is now constructed. A new water feature could appropriately evoke the memory of the earlier pond by using the same simple round shape of its historic precedent; a shape which is repeated in many of the ornamental planting and layout elements to be a distinctive and recurring form in Edinburgh Gardens.

4. *Demolish Rowe Street Entrance Bed and return to lawn.*

The beds are of recent construction and form intrusive elements which detract from the heritage values of the Gardens. The concrete kerbing and the undistinguished planting are not consistent with the character of the Gardens and are too small in scale to have an impact. They are also setback too far from the path to function as an effective treatment to the Rowe Street entrance. Return the beds to lawn to be consistent with other entry treatments to the Gardens.

5. *Retain or remove shrub beds to Tennis Club site and former Ladies Bowling Club site as required.*

The shrub beds do not have heritage significance. Those bordering the northern side of the tennis courts are the much depleted remnants of floral beds which existed in the late 1930s. The existing planting is of recent origin but forms a useful function of softening the interface with the adjacent tennis courts, and could be retained for this purpose.

The planting scheme adjacent to the tennis courts should be upgraded to create greater floral interest reminiscent of the historic role of the former shrub beds.

The shrub beds south of the former Ladies Bowling club site have no historic precedent. They can be retained or removed as required. This decision will be influenced by the future of the former club house. While this building remains, the bed can be usefully retained to soften the interface with the Gardens, although the planting scheme needs to be upgraded. Removal of the beds is likely to be appropriate with the demolition of the former club house.

6. *Create new shrub and floral display beds in the lawns fronting St Georges Road.*

The existing shrub beds in the Rotunda Lawn and the floral display beds fronting St Georges Road are, in their present form, intrusive elements which detract from the Gardens. They are small, piecemeal, and lack impact in the large scale setting of the Gardens. Moreover, the planting schemes are of poor quality.

Historically a long continuous garden bed occupied the length of this frontage. While it is not possible to reinstate this bed as the perimeter has long been occupied by a row planting of Kurrajong (*Brachychiton populneus*), the scale and orientation of the early garden beds could be recreated generally parallel to their original position but set back behind the Kurrajong row. The new beds would be at least as wide as the existing bed on the North West Elm Circle Lawn and should generally extend from the southern end of the Rotunda Lawn to the northern end of the Elm Circle Lawn. Some small breaks may be appropriate to allow for pedestrian movement to St Georges Road and to avoid tracks being trampled through the garden beds.

The planting scheme should provide for a floral display as a feature which was historically characteristic of this segment of the Gardens. Plant selection should be drawn from a palette that was typical of Melbourne's nineteenth century heritage parks and gardens. Any planting scheme would need to take into account the now relatively shaded aspect of this area.

6.5.34 Privet Hedge

Remove the remnant sections of the privet hedge.

The hedge was not a feature of the early garden layout. It is thought to date from the mid-twentieth century when it was planted along the rail line to replace earlier Hawthorn hedges. However, the existing hedge is much degraded. It also forms a barrier to movement across some sections of the Gardens and poses a safety hazard in vicinity of the bike path where it restricts pedestrian and cyclist sight lines. Privet is also a known severe allergen to hayfever sufferers.

6.5.35 Lawns

1. *Retain and maintain lawns to a high standard.*

Broad expanses of turf or lawn are a feature of the Gardens generally. They form a major component of the traditional heritage character in the formal ornamental sections of Edinburgh Gardens and the informal areas, as well as the active sports fields.

These areas should be retained as a primary component of the heritage fabric.

2. *Upgrade turf areas subject to wear, particularly the soccer practice area at the northern end of the Gardens.*

The Soccer practise area is subject to heavy wear incurred by regular use by the primary school opposite. The turf and drainage in this location should be upgraded and maintained to standards appropriate to heavy wear conditions.

3. *Lawn maintenance practices to reflect efficient water management practices.*

In view of the prolonged period of drought experienced during the past summer, efficient water usage will continue to be an important management issue for Edinburgh Gardens, and for maintenance of turf surfaces in particular. Management tasks should include:

- €# Monitoring irrigation times and rates to ensure volume and frequency are appropriately adjusted to meet changing seasonal requirements while avoiding over watering and runoff.
- €# Regular checking of sprays and reticulation to ensure there are no breakages, blockages or leaks.

6.5.36 Log

1. *Retain or remove the log as required.*

The log is not thought to be significant and appears to date from the early 1970s. However, it has become an element held in considerable affection by many residents and there is presently no imperative to remove the log.

6.6 Risk Preparedness

A risk preparedness analysis, outlining the most likely threats and hazards posed to the fabric of the Edinburgh Gardens by environmental and social factors, indicates that greatest threats to the Gardens would seem to be:

€# *Vandalism and Theft*

With the accessible nature of the Edinburgh Gardens in a densely populated and highly visited urban environment, the potential risk of vandalism to bedding plants, trees and lawned areas is considerable. There is also a risk arson and wilful damage to buildings and structures and theft of objects. Bedding plants could be damaged caused by people walking/running through the beds or removing plants. Maintaining a reasonable level of lighting within the Gardens as discussed, may assist in minimising the risk to the Gardens and improve safety for pedestrians at night.

€# *Fire*

The risk of fire generally in the gardens is low given the location and visibility of the site. Notwithstanding this, the risk of fire to the grandstand is reasonably high and the timber Entrance pavilion. Fire from natural causes, such as lightning strike, is unlikely given its urban location and a lush environment.

€# *Storm Damage*

The Edinburgh Gardens are exposed to the risk of storm damage from strong winds, rain, hail and lightning strike. Wind, hail and rain often occur in combination, which can result in weakening of tree root systems, falling trees and broken tree limbs. An abundance of

water due to localised flooding could also result in the damage to lawned areas due to inundation or subsequent damage from pedestrian traffic. Regular maintenance of stormwater drainage systems, where installed, and the grading of lawned areas to avoid ponding would minimise the risk of damage. The risk of lightning damage is less, although tree damage could occur. In any event, it cannot be prevented.

Pests

Known pests include possums and Elm Leaf Beetle. The cinnamon root fungus (*Cinnamomum phytophthora*) and fig psyllids represent other possible threats. The City of Yarra, as the responsible management authority for the Edinburgh Gardens, should continue to manage pest populations which threaten the historic elms and other significant trees. Management includes trunk collars to discourage possums and chemical treatment, or barriers, to control or eradicate Elm Leaf Beetle. Consideration should be given to disease resistant varieties of the same tree species when replacement is required.

Impact

With relatively low volumes of traffic in the area, with the exception of Brunswick Streets, the likelihood of a motor vehicle entering the grounds and colliding with either the landscaped or built elements is low with the only real significant targets being mature trees adjacent to the boundary, and the Gatehouse.

Other

Other possible threats include flood (*ie* rising water levels), earthquake, riot and civil disturbance. Given the topographical, geological and social setting of the Edinburgh Gardens, it is highly unlikely that these threats would ever eventuate.

The following table sets out the most common threats, their probability, and type of preparedness:

Threat	Probability	Preparation/Response
Fire	Low - Moderate	With regard to buildings: Install/maintain fire suppression system; inspect all possible fire sources regularly and maintain electrical systems in good order; maintain liaison with fire brigade
Storm Damage	Moderate	With regard to the landscape: Regular maintenance of stormwater drainage systems, where installed, and the grading of lawned areas to avoid ponding With regard to buildings: Maintain roofs in good order, inspect fixings; inspect and maintain windows and doors in good order; regularly inspect and clean eaves gutters and downpipes
Theft and Vandalism	High	Maintain adequate lighting levels and security surveillance as required.
Vehicle Impact	Low	None practicable
Flood	Very low	Maintain drains in good order
Water ingress (Buildings)	Moderate	Maintain and keep clear all rainwater goods (gutters, downpipes, sumps). Regularly inspect and maintain roof and windows.

6.7 Review and Implementation

The conservation policy should be subject to review, normally at not less than five yearly intervals. Should the circumstances affecting the site alter in any significant way, then the policy should be reviewed at that time.

The conservation policy should be implemented by the City of Yarra as the management authority of the site.

7.0 COMMUNITY COMMENTS – ALLOM LOVELL RESPONSES

This section addresses a number of points raised by submitters who variously have a connection with, and interest in, the Edinburgh Gardens. Consultation with the community provided a forum for those with views to raise them via submissions to the City of Yarra. This process raised some issues of methodology, questioned the conclusions found in the statement of significance, and challenged the conservation policy and management plan.

The points discussed here are those where the consultants have a different view from particular submissions. Rather than delaying completion of the brief further, it was resolved to document the views here and to further address them in the future.

€# *Clement Hodgkinson as a major contributor to the garden design.*

Clement Hodgkinson, then Deputy Commissioner of the Lands Department, is known to have planned four of Melbourne's parks and gardens, that is, the Carlton, Fitzroy, Treasury and Flagstaff Gardens. However, conclusive evidence has not been found to support the proposal that he played a major role in anything other than the location and shape of the Edinburgh Gardens site.¹ Rather, Joseph Martin Reed, Victorian Lands Department district surveyor, signed the survey of trenching and paths. His signature appears on the 1883 plan of the Gardens.

€# *Reconstruction of a watercourse because of the significance of the creek to the layout of the gardens and pathways.*

It is clear the creek existed on the Crown Grant of land which became the Edinburgh Gardens. However, the water was highly polluted, as waste-water from cesspits in North Fitzroy flowed into the Edinburgh Gardens. The creek was really no more than an open drain, and was unofficially used for the disposal of, amongst other things, dead horses. John Patrick Pty Ltd believe reconstruction of a watercourse would cause extensive disturbance and loss of existing Gardens fabric; it would impact on the storm water system; would once again divide the Gardens in two (as it was when the railway existed); and result in the high cost of increased water consumption. Given the comparatively low level of significance when compared with the above factors, it is considered that the creek not be reinstated. It could be interpreted.

It is also proposed that part of the creek's flow influenced the pathway layout and that this should be reinstated. It is the consultant's view that formal path network was not laid out until 1883; the creek was filled in by the late 1880s and therefore the path layout superseded the creek. The principal path structure is of primary significance in its layout (but not materials).

€# *Levels of Significance – state, national and international*

Some submitters were of the view that the Edinburgh Gardens were of state, national and international significance. It was proposed it is of national and state significance as a unique example of a nineteenth century residential circus, and as a major historic park.² Also at a state level, it is proposed that the establishment of major nineteenth century sporting clubs in Fitzroy and located at the Edinburgh Gardens, demonstrates historic links between the early days of Victorian sporting teams, such as Australian Rules Football, district cricket, lawn bowls and tennis. At an international level, it is proposed that Melbourne led the world in crowds coming to watch sport 'through the power of Australian football' and that the Edinburgh Gardens could be regarded as a site significant to Australia as a 'sporting nation' because, in the context of sports spectating history, links can be made between the Brunswick Street oval and the international social phenomena of spectator sport.

The consultants are of the view that that the Edinburgh Gardens are of historical, social and aesthetic significance to the City of Yarra because they have provided a major recreation facility

to the residents of Fitzroy for one hundred and forty years. Their popular use was, in the nineteenth century, due to the perception that sport and recreation not only improved living conditions and public health, but provided places where all levels of society could mix. This is evident in the use of the Gardens through the establishment of the many sporting clubs. The Edinburgh Gardens are also of aesthetic significance as the path system designed for the gardens formalises general pedestrian desire lines to create long straight path alignments and intersecting diagonal routes, rather than a path network of any particular aesthetic style.³

Significance of the former railway line.

The history of the Edinburgh Gardens provides a summary of the establishment, use and closure of the railway line into the Gardens. The remnant railway track and the alignment of the path provide the last evidence of the Fitzroy branch railway line. It is the view of the consultants that, although the line has been removed, the remnant railway track and path following the former railway line are elements of contributory significance and should be retained as they assist in marking out the alignment of the line.

Conservation Policy and Management Plan

Some submitters felt the report failed to provide adequate discussion of specific conservation policy for use and development of a number of elements contained within the Gardens, in particular, those elements considered to be intrusive. The consultant is of the view that the report systematically reviews and analyses every element within the Gardens and nominates a level of significance for that element as well as a policy.

The Gardens should not be frozen in time. In the past, structures have been installed in response to public needs, and this will occur in the future. The Gardens will continue to be the focus and location of a range of community services and activities not directly connected to the Gardens, for example, the Infant Welfare Centre. There is no heritage imperative which would require or prohibit this in the future. Rather, it is envisaged that there will be some new buildings but that they should be responsive and appropriate to the heritage value of the Gardens and should not be dominant in the gardens or in their immediate context.

Summary

Issues raised but not addressed here have been incorporated into the CMP in the appropriate section.

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APPENDIX A THE BURRA CHARTER

The Australia ICOMOS BURRA CHARTER, 1999

Preamble

Considering the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice, 1964), and the Resolutions of the 5th General Assembly of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) (Moscow 1978), the Burra Charter was adopted by Australia ICOMOS (the Australian National Committee of ICOMOS) on 19 August 1979 at Burra, South Australia. Revisions were adopted on 23 February 1981, 23 April 1988 and 26 November 1999.

The Burra Charter provides guidance for the conservation and management of places of cultural significance (cultural heritage places), and is based on the knowledge and experience of Australia ICOMOS members.

Conservation is an integral part of the management of places of cultural significance and is an ongoing responsibility.

Who is the Charter for?

The Charter sets a standard of practice for those who provide advice, make decisions about, or undertake works to places of cultural significance, including owners, managers and custodians.

Using the Charter

The Charter should be read as a whole. Many articles are interdependent. Articles in the Conservation Principles section are often further developed in the Conservation Processes and Conservation Practice sections. Headings have been included for ease of reading but do not form part of the Charter.

The Charter is self-contained, but aspects of its use and application are further explained in the following Australia ICOMOS documents.

Article 1. Definitions

For the purposes of this Charter:

- 1.1 *Place* means site, area, land, landscape, building or other work, group of buildings or other works, and may include components, contents, spaces and views.
- 1.2 *Cultural significance* means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations.
Cultural significance is embodied in the *place* itself, its *fabric*, *setting*, *use*, *associations*, *meanings*, records, *related places* and *related objects*.
- 1.3 *Fabric* means all the physical material of the *place* including components, fixtures, contents and objects.
- 1.4 *Conservation* means all the processes of looking after a *place* so as to retain its *cultural significance*.
- 1.5 *Maintenance* means the continuous protective care of the *fabric* and *setting* of a *place*, and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves *restoration* or *reconstruction*.
- 1.6 *Preservation* means maintaining the *fabric* of a *place* in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

- 1.7 *Restoration* means returning the existing *fabric* of a *place* to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling components without the introduction of new material.
- 1.8 *Reconstruction* means returning a *place* to a known earlier state and is distinguished from *restoration* by the introduction of new material into the *fabric*.
- 1.9 *Adaptation* means modifying a *place* to suit the existing use or a proposed use.
- 1.10 *Use* means the functions of a *place*, as well as the activities and practices that may occur at the *place*.
- 1.11 *Compatible use* means a *use* which respects the *cultural significance* of a *place*. Such a use involves no, or minimal, impact on cultural significance.
- 1.12 *Setting* means the area around a *place*, which may include the visual catchment.
- 1.13 *Related place* means a *place* that contributes to the *cultural significance* of another *place*.
- 1.14 *Related object* means an object that contributes to the *cultural significance* of a *place* but is not at the *place*.
- 1.15 *Associations* mean the special connections that exist between people and a *place*.
- 1.16 *Meanings* denote what a *place* signifies, indicates, evokes or expresses.
- 1.17 *Interpretation* means all the ways of presenting the *cultural significance* of a *place*.

Conservation Principles.

Article 2. Conservation and Management.

- 2.1 *Places of cultural significance* should be conserved.
- 2.2 The aim of *conservation* is to retain the *cultural significance* of a *place*.
- 2.3 *Conservation* is an integral part of good management of *places of cultural significance*.
- 2.4 *Places of cultural significance* should be safeguarded and not put at risk or left in a vulnerable state.

Article 3. Cautious approach.

- 3.1 *Conservation* is based on a respect for the existing *fabric*, *use*, *associations* and *meanings*. It requires a cautious approach of changing as much as necessary but as little as possible.
- 3.2 Changes to a *place* should not distort the physical or other evidence it provides, nor be based on conjecture.

Article 4. Knowledge, skills and techniques.

- 4.1 *Conservation* should make use of all the knowledge, skills and disciplines which can contribute to the study and care of the *place*.
- 4.2 Traditional techniques and materials are preferred for the conservation of significant *fabric*. In some circumstances modern techniques and materials which offer substantial conservation benefits may be appropriate.

Article 5. Values.

- 5.1 *Conservation* of a *place* should identify and take into consideration all aspects of cultural and natural significance without unwarranted emphasis on any one value at the expense of others.
- 5.2 Relative degrees of *cultural significance* may lead to different *conservation* actions at a *place*.

Article 6. Burra Carter Process

- 6.1 The *cultural significance* of a *place* and other issues affecting its future are best understood by a sequence of collecting and analysing information before making decisions. Understanding *cultural significance* comes first, then development of policy and finally management of the *place* in accordance with the policy.
- 6.2 The policy for managing a *place* must be based on an understanding of its *cultural significance*.
- 6.3 Policy development should also include consideration of other factors affecting the future of a *place* such as the owner's needs, resources, external constraints and its physical condition.

Article 7. Use

- 7.1 Where the use of a *place* is of *cultural significance* it should be retained.

Article 8. Setting

Conservation requires the retention of an appropriate visual *setting* and other relationships that contribute to the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

New construction, demolition, intrusions or other changes which would adversely affect the setting or relationships are not appropriate.

Article 9. Location

- 9.1 The physical location of a *place* is part of its *cultural significance*. A building, work or other component of a *place* should remain in its historical location. Relocation is generally unacceptable unless this is the sole practical means of ensuring its survival.
- 9.2 Some buildings, works or other components of *places* were designed to be readily removable or already have a history of relocation. Provided such buildings, works or other components do not have significant links with their present location, removal may be appropriate.
- 9.3 If any building, work or other component is moved, it should be moved to an appropriate location and given an appropriate *use*. Such action should not be to the detriment of any *place* of *cultural significance*.

Article 10. Contents

Contents, fixtures and objects which contribute to the *cultural significance* of a *place* should be retained at that place. Their removal is unacceptable unless it is the sole means of ensuring their security and *preservation*: on a temporary basis for treatment or exhibition for cultural reasons: for health and safety: or to protect the *place*. Such contents, fixtures and objects should be returned where circumstances permit and it is culturally appropriate.

Article 11. Related places and objects

The contribution which *related places* and *related* objects make to the *cultural significance* of the *place* should be retained.

Article 12. Participation

Conservation, *interpretation* and management of a *place* should provide for the participation of people for whom the *place* has special *associations* and *meanings*, or who have social, spiritual or other cultural responsibilities for the *place*.

Article 13. Co-existence of cultural values

Co-existence of cultural values should be recognised, respected and encouraged, especially in cases where they conflict.

Article 14. Conservation processes

Conservation may, according to circumstance, include the processes of: retention or reintroduction of a *use*: retention of *associations* and *meanings*: *maintenance*, *preservation*, *restoration*, *reconstruction*, *adaptation* and *interpretation*: and will commonly include a combination of more than one of these.

Article 15. Change

- 15.1 Change may be necessary to retain *cultural significance*, but is undesirable where it reduces cultural significance. The amount of change to a *place* should be guided by the *cultural significance* of the place and its appropriate *interpretation*.
- 15.2 Changes which reduce *cultural significance* should be reversible, and be reversed when circumstances permit.
- 15.3 Demolition of significant *fabric* of a *place* is generally not acceptable. However, in some cases minor demolition may be appropriate as part of *conservation*. Removed significant fabric should be reinstated when circumstances permit.
- 15.4 The contributions of all aspects of *cultural significance* of a *place* should be respected. If a *place* includes *fabric*, *uses*, *associations* or *meanings* of different periods, or different aspects of *cultural significance*, emphasising or interpreting one period or aspect at the expense of another can only be justified when what is left out, removed or diminished is of slight *cultural significance* and that which is emphasised or interpreted is of much greater *cultural significance*.

Article 16. Maintenance

Maintenance is fundamental to conservation and should be undertaken where *fabric* is of *cultural significance* and its maintenance is necessary to retain that *cultural significance*.

Article 17. Preservation

Preservation is appropriate where the existing *fabric* or its condition constitutes evidence of *cultural significance*, or where insufficient evidence is available to allow other *conservation* processes to be carried out.

Article 18. Restoration and reconstruction

Restoration and *reconstruction* should reveal culturally significant aspects of the *place*.

Article 19. Restoration

Restoration is appropriate only if there is sufficient evidence of an earlier state of the *fabric*.

Article 20. Reconstruction

- 20.1 *Reconstruction* is appropriate only where a *place* is incomplete through damage or alteration, and only where there is sufficient evidence to reproduce an earlier state of the *fabric*. In rare cases, reconstruction may also be appropriate as part of a *use* or practice that remains the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

20.2 *Reconstruction* should be identifiable on close inspection or through additional *interpretation*.

Article 21. Adaptation

21.1 *Adaptation* is acceptable only where the adaptation has minimal impact on the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

21.2 *Adaptation* should involve minimal change to significant fabric, achieved only after considering alternatives.

Article 22. New work

22.1 New work such as additions to the *place* may be acceptable where it does not distort or obscure the *cultural significance* of the *place*, or detract from its *interpretation* and appreciation.

22.2 New work should be readily identifiable as such.

Article 23. Conserving use

Continuing, modifying or reinstating a significant *use* may be appropriate and preferred forms of *conservation*.

Article 24. Retaining associations and meanings.

24.1 Significant *associations* between people and a *place* should be respected, retained and not obscured. Opportunities for the *interpretation*, commemoration and celebration of these associations should be investigated and implemented.

24.2 Significant *meanings*, including spiritual values, of a *place* should be respected. Opportunities for the continuation or revival of these meanings should be investigated and implemented.

Article 25. Interpretation

The *cultural significance* of many *places* is not readily apparent, and should be explained by *interpretation*. Interpretation should enhance understanding and enjoyment, and be culturally appropriate.

Conservation Practice

Article 26. Applying the Burra Charter process.

26.1 Work on a *place* should be preceded by studies to understand the *place* which should include analysis of physical, documentary, oral and other evidence, drawing on appropriate knowledge, skills and disciplines.

26.2 Written statements of *cultural significance* and policy for the *place* should be prepared, justified and accompanied by supporting evidence. The statements of significance and policy should be incorporated into a management plan for the *place*.

26.3 Groups and individuals with *associations* with a *place* as well as those involved in its management should be provided with opportunities to contribute to and participate in understanding the *cultural significance* of the *place*. Where appropriate they should also have opportunities to participate in its *conservation* and management.

Article 27. Managing Change.

- 27.1 The impact of proposed changes on the *cultural significance* of a *place* should be analysed with reference to the statement of significance and the policy for managing the *place*. It may be necessary to modify proposed changes following analysis to better retain *cultural significance*.
- 27.2 Existing *fabric, use, associations* and *meanings* should be adequately recorded before any changes are made to the *place*.

Article 28. Disturbance of fabric

- 28.1 Disturbance of significant *fabric* for study, or to obtain evidence, should be minimised. Study of a *place* by any disturbance of the fabric, including archaeological excavation, should only be undertaken to provide data essential for decisions on the *conservation* of the *place*, or to obtain important evidence about to be lost or made inaccessible.
- 28.2 Investigation of a *place* which requires disturbance of the *fabric*, apart from that necessary to make decisions, may be appropriate provided that it is consistent with the policy for the *place*. Such investigation should be based on important research questions which have potential to substantially add to knowledge, which cannot be answered in other ways and which minimises disturbance of significant fabric.

Article 29. Responsibility for decisions

The organisations and individuals responsible for management decisions should be named and specific responsibility taken for each such decision.

Article 30. Direction, supervision, and implementation

Competent direction and supervision should be maintained at all stages, and any changes should be implemented by people with appropriate knowledge and skills.

Article 31. Documenting evidence and decisions.

A log of new evidence and additional decisions should be kept.

Article 32. Records

- 32.1 The records associated with the *conservation* of a *place* should be placed in a permanent archive and made publicly available, subject to the requirements of security and privacy, and where this is culturally appropriate.
- 32.2 Records about the history of a *place* should be protected and made publicly available, subject to requirements of security and privacy, and where this is culturally appropriate.

Article 33. Removed fabric.

Significant *fabric* which has been removed from a *place* including contents, fixtures and objects, should be catalogued, and protected in accordance with its *cultural significance*.

Where possible and culturally appropriate, removed significant fabric including contents, fixtures and objects, should be kept at the *place*.

Article 34. Resources.

Adequate resources should be provided for conservation.

APPENDIX B HERITAGE CITATIONS

Victorian Heritage Register

Register of the National Estate

National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Register

Fitzroy Cricket Ground Grandstand, Brunswick Street Fitzroy`

VHR Number	H751
File Number	601192
Year Construction Started	1888
Municipality	Yarra City
Extent of Registration	To the extent of the grandstand building, as defined by the Heritage Council.
Architect/Designer	Billing, Nathaniel
General References	<i>Citation</i> , National Trust
Spatial Information	-37.78978, 144.98012
Heritage Act Categories	Heritage place
Item Categories	
Item Group	Recreation and Entertainment
Item Category	Grandstand

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Fitzroy Cricket Ground Grandstand was constructed in 1888 to the design of the architects N Billing and Son. It is of typical nineteenth century form with central divided entry stair emphasised by a small pediment and restrained use of cast iron for balustrading. The ground, usually known as the "Brunswick Street Oval", was the home of the Fitzroy Football Club until 1966.

How is it significant?

The Fitzroy Cricket Ground Grandstand is of architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it Significant?

The Fitzroy Cricket Ground Grandstand is of architectural significance as a fine example of a 19th century timber grandstand at a major sports venue. It is of typical 19th century form with central divided entry stair emphasised by a small pediment and restrained use of cast iron for balustrading only. Grandstands were a spectacular feature of nineteenth century recreation but generally were demolished or severely altered. The Fitzroy Cricket Ground Grandstand therefore stands as one of the most important of a now small group of survivors.

The Fitzroy Cricket Ground Grandstand is of historical significance as possibly the oldest and most intact nineteenth century grandstand in the metropolitan area and for its enduring association over many years with inner metropolitan football and cricket, one of the few associated structures to have survived relatively intact. The Cricket Ground was the home of the now-defunct Fitzroy Football Club until 1966

and stands as an important reminder of the contribution made by Fitzroy to the history of Australian football in Victoria.

Register of the National Estate

Edinburgh Gardens, Fitzroy North VIC

Class: Historic

Legal Status: Indicative Place

Database Number: 018130

File Number: 2/11/020/0097

Nominator's Statement of Significance:

The Edinburgh Gardens are significant in terms of the large number of established trees and garden beds and the associated garden furniture - cast iron bollards, drinking fountain, fixed seats and bandstand. The tennis club house, train track and fixed train engine and the Bowling Club house and lawns are integral to this significance, while the adjacent cricket ground, with its two gatehouses and historic grandstand, is of complementary significance. They are also notable for the open space they provide and the manner in which they complement and close the vistas observable while passing along Alfred Crescent. The significance of the precinct is seen to lie in the marriage of the built environment with a sylvan landscape. It is enhanced by the quality of individual elements, both built and floral, in terms of their historical, architectural, recreational and visual amenity.

Description:

The Edinburgh Gardens precinct is defined by the escargot shaped reserve originally set aside for Public Gardens, the Fitzroy and the North Fitzroy Cricket Grounds and a railway station and line. The unique shape of the gardens stems from the resolution between different street grids and the desire to create a circus along Georgian lines. The scheme for a grand crescent with central gardens, playing grounds and rail facilities was developed as the most logical answer to this dilemma.

Condition and Integrity:

There is at present only one cricket ground in the south west corner, to the north of which lie the bowling and tennis clubs. The northernmost land of the reserve originally set aside for the north Fitzroy Cricket Ground has been absorbed into the gardens proper. The railway line is decrepit and unused, except on its northernmost gardens section, which now houses an old engine. The area originally allotted to the railway station and yards has become a timber mill. The one building of individual significance within the garden is an early twentieth century bandstand. Other, newer, buildings are intrusive.

Location:

About 15ha, bordered by Brunswick Street, St Georges Road, Alfred Crescent, Jamieson Street, Queens Parade, Napier Street and Freeman Street, Fitzroy North.

Bibliography:

Edinburgh Gardens Landscape Study Prepared For The City Of Fitzroy -Landform Australia Pty Ltd. March 1987.

North Fitzroy Conservation Study Commissioned By The Historic Buildings Preservation Council And The Australian Heritage Commission For The City Of Fitzroy. July 1978.

National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Register

Fitzroy Cricket Club Grandstand

Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, VIC 3065

Extra Location Info

Municipality:	Yarra City
Region:	Inner Melbourne
File No:	B6060
Category:	BUILDING
Place Type:	Grandstand
Class:	State
Classified:	3 August 1998
Citation Type:	Trust

Citation

Statement of Significance

Built 1888, at the high point of the boom, the Fitzroy Grandstand is one of only three surviving grandstands that predate the great depression of the 1890s. It is one of the last works in the long and distinguished career of Nathaniel Billing, then practising as N Billing & Son. It is not of the grand scale of the City Oval, Ballarat, but despite the alterations to the change rooms under the tiered seating it still retains its form and detail elsewhere.

It is of typical nineteenth century form with central divided entry stair emphasised by a small pediment and restrained use of cast iron for balustrading only. Grandstands were a spectacular feature of nineteenth century recreation but generally were demolished or severely altered. Fitzroy Grandstand therefore stands as one of the most important of a now small group of survivors.

First Classified 18/5/89

Amended 29/6/89

Revised: Classified State 3/8/98

National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Register

Quercus ilex

Fitzroy, VIC 3065

Extra Location Info

Edinburgh Gardens, Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, NE side of Bowling Club

Municipality:	Yarra City
Region:	Inner Melbourne
File No:	T11566
Category:	TREE
Tree Species:	Quercus ilex
Common Name:	Holm Oak
Tree Family:	Fagaceae
No of Trees:	1
Spread:	21.70
Girth:	4.55
Height:	21.50
Est Age:	80
Condition:	Good
Class:	Local
Last Revised:	10 May 1993
Citation Type:	Trust

Citation

Statement of Significance

Outstanding Size: height x circumference x spread

NOTES

The finer of two examples of the species in the gardens, the tree has undergone maintenance works to highlight its structure. Unfortunately, overcrowded by nearby elms.

APPENDIX C CHRONOLOGY OF HISTORICAL EVENTS

APPENDIX C CHRONOLOGY OF HISTORICAL EVENTS

The following information is largely based on notes on the history of the Edinburgh Gardens included in the 1987 Edinburgh Gardens Landscape Study by Landform Australia.

- 1859 Fitzroy Council requests a reserve for public recreation from the Crown Lands Department. A 7 acre triangular site between Heidelberg Road, Reilly Street (now Alexandra Parade) and Smith Street is temporarily reserved for public recreation (6a 1r) and public baths and wash houses (3 roods).
- 1862 10 January and 19 February: Council requests an alternative site of 50 acres for public recreation in North Fitzroy. They suggest an oval site of 20 chains in diameter and 29.25 chains long.
- 22 February: The site is reduced in area to 38a 3r 26.5p and set back to clear the future extension of Brunswick Street by Clement Hodgkinson, Deputy Commissioner of Land and Works.
- 28 March: Temporary reservation of new site and revocation of 1859 reservation is gazetted.
- 25 September: Collingwood Commercial Cricket Club permitted to occupy and fence 9 acres of reserve at the intersection of Brunswick and St Georges Road.
- 1863 9 July: Prince of Wales Cricket Club is permitted to occupy 6 acres of the reserve directly south of the Collingwood Commercial Cricket Club.
- 1870s Head Gardener's cottage constructed
- 1872 The two cricket clubs amalgamate to become the Fitzroy Cricket Club and are permitted to occupy a combined site of approximately 15 acres
- 1876 26 July: The reserve is referred to in correspondence as the 'Duke of Edinburgh Gardens'. A memo states that the Fitzroy Cricket Club has to date expended about £450 on fencing, planting, sowing, building, etc. The remainder of the grounds is enclosed by a post and 2 rail fence and the land used by the Fitzroy Council for grazing purposes.
- 1877 3 October: Letter from Fitzroy Cricket Club lists improvements to their area including the 'Ladies Reserve and Pavilion', the 'Playing Ground' including footpath and running track, the 'Bowling Green', the 'Practice Pitch' and a caretaker's residence.
- 22 October: Regulations for the management of the area occupied by the Cricket Club (14a 3r 23p) are Gazetted and a Committee of Management is appointed.
- 1878 2 September: Regulations for the management of the remaining area of the reserve by the Fitzroy Council is Gazetted (total area now 42a 3r 23p).
- 1881 9 April: The council opposes a proposed excision of 2 acres of the Gardens east of the Prince of Wales Cricket Ground for a State School Site.
- 1 and 9 August: Railway Department requests excision of a strip of land running east-west through the Gardens for a railway reserve. The request lapses.
- 24 October: The southern portion of the Gardens (33a 3r 23p) is permanently reserved and Gazetted on 28 October.
- By this stage Alfred Crescent had been continued around the south-east boundary between Grant and Groom Streets, resulting in some loss of area.
- 1882 Crown Grant for southern portion (33a 3r 23p) issued to the Board of Land and Works jointly with the Mayor, Councillors and citizens of Fitzroy as 'a site for a public park and gardens for the recreation and amusement of our subjects and people...'

Crown Grant for northern portion (now amended to 8a Or 17p) issued 19 June 1883.

- 1883 19 June: Southern portion of the Gardens permanently reserved (7a 3r 37p), Gazetted 22 June.
22 June: Fitzroy Council agrees with the Board of Land and Works to each contribute £250 per annum for five years from 1 July for the improvement and maintenance of the Gardens, with the expenditure to be controlled by a Committee of Management appointed jointly.

Intensive development and planting of the Gardens appears to have commenced around this time including

- # large sections raised by filling with garbage and street manure
- # extensive areas trenched for the disposal of night soil
- # the creek was filled in and an underground culvert installed to the west

It is probable that the fine plantations and avenues of elms and oaks that survive today were planted in the 1880s.

A Land Department map dated May 1883 records developments to that time and shows the unfenced northern oval, the main southern oval, bowling green, pavilion and gardener's dwelling, all fenced, as well as the fence and gates around the boundary of the Gardens.

The main path system which persists today was already established by this time along routes which clearly reflect the practical, through-traffic needs of pedestrians.

The two east-west paths, one from Rowe Street, the other from Grant Street, crossed the natural barrier of the creek via two small bridges. These two crossing points persist today as intersection points in the path system.

The main north-south path ran beside the cricket ground in the line connecting Best Street and Langton (now Napier) Street. Later paving and avenue plantings confirmed the permanency of these main paths. Diagonal paths and decorative garden beds were added to fill in the interspaces.

- 1887 10 August: A deputation of citizens waits on the Minister for Lands asking for the immediate stoppage of the Council depositing garbage, rubbish and dead animals in a portion of the Gardens.

7 September: A petition of citizens asks for removal of certain fences erected by the Committee of Management which impede free access across the northern ground. Also asks '...that paths should be made from one gate to another for the accommodation of pedestrians' and notes that paths already worn by the feet of pedestrians...'

Maps show that within the next few years this part of the Gardens, north and east of the bowling green, was developed with paths and trees.

- 1888 22 June: The Gardens are subdivided to transfer a portion of the land to the Railways Commissioners (Vol. 2044, Fol. 4087030) and the rail line end station were subsequently built.

Education Department writes advising of closure of North Fitzroy School because of the smell and health risk caused by the depositing of rubbish in the Gardens by Fitzroy Council.

Fitzroy Council and Board of Land and Works agree to continue joint management arrangement for another 5 years from 1 July 1888, contributing annually £250 each.

First Grandstand constructed.

- 1892 Annual reports prepared by the Committee of Management for several years from 1892 are on file and give details of expenditures. These are signed by A A Bannerman as Acting Curator. In 1892-93, £3/15/- was spent for 5000 hawthorn 'quicks'; more were bought in subsequent years. It is apparent that extensive hedges of hawthorn were a feature of the gardens. These

were certainly used to screen the railway end and were probably planted in other locations, perhaps even along the peripheral fence.

1894-95 The Committee began the practice of 'selling grass' for revenue, i.e., harvesting hay, a common, practice in other Melbourne parks at the time.

The street water from Rowe Street was carried into the Gardens and used for watering the eastern side, for which reticulated water was not available. It is probable that the large circular pond built adjacent to Alfred Crescent was used to store this storm water.

1900 Most of the ground features of the Gardens existed at the turn of the century including the new railway station, rail line end level crossing, and a fountain at the northern end (This may have been the fountain once located in the Ladies' Enclosure of the Cricket ground).

c.1900: Timber gatehouse built for Cricket Club.

1905 Additional diagonal paths, avenue plantings, several circular garden beds, the circular pond in line with Rowe Street, and the gardener's cottage with a substantial yard to the rear (probably a service yard, where the present service yard end nursery facilities now stand).

Expansion of the cricket ground facilities, including construction of a second grandstand, which became important as the home ground of the Fitzroy Football Club.

c.1902 Statue to Queen Victoria erected

1917 2 October: The Lands Department withdraws from direct participation in the management of the Gardens and Fitzroy Council is appointed a Committee of Management. Gazetted 10.10.1917.

1924 Band stand erected

1926 Fitzroy Council's proposal to extend the cricket ground to the east, involving removal of the fine avenue of elms along the north-south path beside the railway land, is bitterly opposed in the press and by local citizens. The Minister for Lands forbids their removal. The issue resurfaces from time to time.

It is probable that the external fences, other than those around the cricket ground, were removed in the 1920s, the period when most public parks were opened up in Melbourne.

1938 9 March: Fitzroy Council informs the Lands Department that the trees have been removed as '...an eyesore and a danger...'

Also the trees '...adjacent to the Tennis Courts were throwing shadows on the playing arenas and the roots were also a continuous source of trouble'.

Refers to the '...floral decorative strip along the pathway north of the playing arenas from the Brunswick Street entrance eastwards ... which could not be continued to the end of the Courts as desired because of these trees.'

Recent improvements described include incorporation of disused Railway land on each side of the line after removal of the hedges and picket fences.

Removal of the footpath on the eastern and southern side abutting Alfred Crescent and its conversion to grass.

In recent years many flower beds and shrubberies have been eliminated to simplify maintenance and fixed sprinkler systems have been installed over large areas.

Late 1930s: Cricket grounds extended over the main north-south path on the Napier Street alignment and the path was relocated to the east.

- 1948 20 August: Lands Department approves of the establishment of a ladies' bowling green in the Gardens.
- Late 1940s: Schools' Sports Ground constructed after the removal of the path to Grant Street and the 'mound' and several trees. (Circular pond removed some years earlier)
- 1960s Superintendent's house constructed ?
- 1967 12 December: The Fitzroy (Edinburgh Gardens) Lands Act, 1967 is approved which
- # closes a small portion of Freeman Street and incorporates it in the Gardens
 - # appoints the Corporation of Fitzroy as the committee of management and
 - # permits the Corporation to lease the sites occupied for bowling (two), tennis, cricket and football for up to 21 years (subject to the approval of the Governor in Council if the term exceeds three years).
- 1972 Children's welfare centre erected replacing earlier timber building behind the present Superintendent's house.
- Toilet block erected near intersection of Alfred Crescent and St Georges Road
- Brick pedestrian shelter erected near the Superintendent's house, replacing a Victorian slate-roofed gazebo.
- 1977 Most buildings in the cricket and football areas are in a derelict state and Football Club grandstand is destroyed by fire and is largely demolished
- Centenary Pavilion, containing change rooms is constructed in the City's Centenary year.
- 1980 City of Fitzroy undertakes a \$500,000 project to upgrade the oval facilities including
- # demolition of boundary walls and fences
 - # earth banks regarded and planted with trees
 - # nineteenth century grandstand was restored
 - # former grandstand site re-landscaped
 - # Community Room constructed next to grandstand
 - # timber entry pavilion was relocated to main through path
 - # grounds and oval were returfed and replanted
- 1991-2 Bench seating reinstated based on original
- Grandstand and gatehouse restored
- 1996 Timber gatehouse destroyed by fire

To be confirmed:

Children's playground

Tennis club

Bocce court

Hockey field and changing rooms on the eastern side erected (the northern end of this ground covers the former site of the circular pond.).

Plant Nursery

Park Depot

**APPENDIX D MAINTENANCE DOCUMENTATION PREPARED BY
HERITAGE VICTORIA**

Preparing a Maintenance Plan

Documenting Repair and Maintenance Works

Inspection Schedule

