

Manningham Heritage Garden & Significant Tree Study

Heritage Garden Information Sheet

Garden Identification No.: 31

Name of Property: Morrison's Orchard

Location: 3 Henry St, Doncaster

Owner: Mr. Robin Morrison

History:

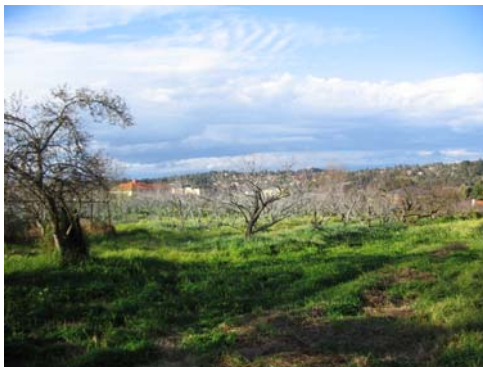
Original owner: Unknown

House –Designed By: N/A

Built by: N/A

Date: N/A

Additions (date): N/A



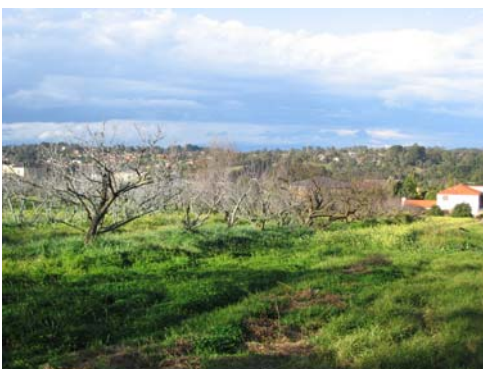
Garden -Designed By: N/A

Built by: Current owner's father

Date: c.1945

Additions (date, designer & type): Ongoing replacement of trees over time as required in farming the land.

Notes – While not strictly a "garden" this site is a significant landscape. This second generation orchard is thought to be the last commercial orchard in the suburb of Doncaster, an area with a strong orcharding history.



Garden Style:

Geometric		Australian Native		English Landscape		Picturesque		Gardenesque (Victorian)	
Edwardian		Bush		Australian suburban		Plantsman's		Other	X

Other: Commercial Orchard

Category of Significance:

Significant role in pattern of history	Demonstrating a rare/endangered aspect of history	X	May yield new historical information		Demonstrating a class of significant places	X
Aesthetic value	High level of Creative/ Technical development representing a period		Valued by community for cultural, social or spiritual reasons		Associated with (or designed by) historical figure	

Level of Significance: Local

Main Elements:

Trees		Shrubberies		Lakes/ponds		Other	
Walling		Steps		Paving		Hedges	

Other: Current commercial fruit trees as well as a number of old varieties now not commercially grown.

Features:

Statuary		Fountain		Summer house/aviary		Gates		Pergola	
Terraces		Urns		Orchard		Kitchen Garden		Other	

Other: A *Pinus radiata* windbreak is present but is not significant. There is also a non-significant house garden.

Garden Plantings: The orchard mainly grows Peaches with some Nectarines, all of which are sold in the adjacent Morrison's Brothers Nursery. Peach varieties include "Wiggans" an old variety, "Zerbe" bred by the Doncaster orchardists of same name, "Elberta", "O'Ryan", "Harry Smith" and "Beal" also bred by and named for Doncaster Orchardists. Newer varieties include "Loring" and "Fragar". Also of interest was the variety "Anzac", a breed by a Doncaster farmer around WW1. The naming of this variety is of historical interest as the Doncaster region had a high concentration of German settlers. The naming of the variety was a show of Australian nationalism by the German farmers while Australia was a war with their country of origin. Streets with German names in the area were also renamed due to the war (e.g. Bismarck Street was renamed Victoria.)

Condition & Integrity:

Excellent		Good	X	Fair		Deteriorated		Ruins	
Intact	X	Altered/extended sympathetically		Altered/extended unsympathetically		Disturbed or damaged		Restoration possible?	

Notes: The majority of the fruit trees currently on the property are not the original ones planted when the orchard was set out around 60 years ago, but replacements. Peaches and Nectarines are relatively short lived and commercial trees are replaced at frequent intervals. Due to the commercial nature of the property, with a continuing and unchanging use, the site may still be considered to be intact and old varieties have still been maintained.

Maintenance Practice/ Requirements: Continue to manage as a commercial orchard including the removal and replacement of trees as required. Examples of the old varieties should continue to be grown in order to preserve the cultivars, whether these are original trees or replacement specimens.

Existing Overlay Controls: No overlays

Significant Elements: The Morrison's Brothers Orchard at 3 Henry Street Doncaster is of local significance for demonstrating an endangered practice of cultural significance to the council (in the form of commercial orcharding), as well as for its scientific value in the collection of old fruit trees. The significant element of the landscape is the commercial Peach and Nectarine orchard.

Recorded by: Andrea Proctor

Date: 08-08-05