

Manningham Heritage Garden & Significant Tree Study

Heritage Garden Information Sheet

Garden Identification No.: 57

Name of Property: "Sunningdale"

Location: 16 Old Warrandyte Road, Donvale

Owner: Victor & Jane Perton

History:
Original owner: Frank Green

House – Designed By: Percy H. Meldrum, Meldrum & Noad

Built by: Unknown

Date: 1941

Additions (date) Tennis court, pool & paving added during the 1970s.



Garden - Designed By: Unknown

Built by: Unknown

Date: c. 1941

Additions (date, designer & type): Unknown

Notes – The garden is believed to be contemporary with the construction of the house in 1941. Set behind a significant pine reserve, the house and garden are largely screened from the road. Consisting of a sweeping gravel driveway, central pond and a number of garden beds, it would appear that the garden was designed to accentuate the house.

Garden Style:

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

Other: Believed to have been designed soon after the construction of the house, the garden provides quite an informal setting to the house.

Category of Significance:

Significant role in pattern of history	X	Demonstrating a rare/endangered aspect of history		May yield new historical information		Demonstrating a class of significant places	
Aesthetic value	X	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	X

Level of Significance: Regional

Main Elements:

Trees	X	Shrubberies		Lakes/ponds	X	Other			
Walling		Steps		Paving		Other	X		

Other: Much of the front garden appears to be intact with mature trees, informal garden beds and lawn, with a central pond. The rear garden has been altered over the years to include a tennis court, swimming pool and substantial paving.

Features:

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

Other: A number of the lamp posts, mainly around the house, appear to be original elements, while a number of later additions are located around the driveway. There is a small statue within the pond and a footbridge from the edge of the pond through the garden bed.

Garden Plantings: The garden is quite a mix of exotic and native species. Trees include Evergreen magnolias (*Michelia doltsopa*), English oaks (*Quercus robur*), willows (*Salix sp.*), Spotted gums (*Corymbia maculata*), Norfolk Island pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*), Crab apples (*Malus spp.*) to name a few. Camellias, rhododendrons and azaleas dominate the shrub plantings due to the shaded nature of the garden beds. A number of pines are scattered along both the west and southern boundary, forming a backdrop to the garden.

Condition & Integrity:

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

Notes: The owners are currently "restoring" the garden to what is thought to be the original condition. This includes developing the western boundary garden bed with new planting and edging and removing a number of weed species from the garden beds.

Maintenance Practices/Requirements: Garden currently managed by owners. Weed species, such as Cotoneaster, should be removed from garden beds. Garden beds should be re-planted with species contemporary with the era of the house, particularly the garden bed to the north of the driveway/entrance, where planting is almost non-existent. A number of the pines are declining and/or becoming hazardous, with some requiring removal.

Existing Overlay Controls: Heritage Overlay (HO124), Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO1)

Significant Elements: "Sunningdale" at 16 Old Warrandyte Road, Donvale is of regional significance. The garden is significant for its suitability for, and connection with, the house designed by well known architect Percy Meldrum. The general layout of the garden west of the house is intact, containing what appears to be a number of the mature trees and shrubs from its development. While some changes have occurred to the east of the site, these have not adversely impacted on the overall garden and its relationship with the house. The layout of the garden beds, their edging, and plantings, the driveway and central water feature are considered to be of significance to the site, with changes occurring to the eastern section in the 1970s. These however, are largely screened from view.

Recorded by: Susan Tallon

Date: 3-10-02

