

## Manningham Heritage Garden & Significant Tree Study

### Heritage Garden Information Sheet

**Garden Identification No.:** 74

**Name of Property:** "Ardenholm" (Original Property, now sub-divided)

**Location:** 9 Serpells Road, Templestowe

**Owner:** Mr. Ian Richards

**History:**

**Original owner:** McKeller family owned the property at the time of the garden design.

**House –Designed By:** N/A  
**Built by:** N/A  
**Date:** N/A  
**Additions (date)** N/A

**Garden -Designed By:** Edna Walling  
**Built by:** Original owner to Walling plan  
**Date:** 1951-52  
**Additions (date, designer & type):** Original garden sub-divided

**Notes –** Edna Walling was commissioned by the McKeller family in the 1950s to produce a bush garden, due to this type of garden being perceived to be of low maintenance. Walling was considered to be the premier designer of bush gardens in Victoria at the time, and one of the few designers who would use Australian Native Plants in a suburban context. The commission of "Ardenholm" came during a time when Walling was using native plants almost exclusively, although this was some time before the native plant movement took hold. The McKellers had some difficulties implementing Walling's plan, and although it was fully implemented, some plants had to be shipped from interstate due to their scarcity. There was also much criticism of the designs close planting, although the garden did eventually fulfil the design brief and create a naturalistic style garden.

Source: T.Dixon and J. Churchill, *The Vision of Edna Walling*, Blooming's Books 1998

**Garden Style:**

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

**Other:** Edna Walling native garden

**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		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:** Local

**Main Elements:**

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

**Other:** A number of original trees from the Edna Walling design remain

**Features:**

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

**Other:** None

**Garden Plantings:** One *Acacia* sp., one *Allocasuarina cunninghamiana*, two *Eucalyptus bicostata*, one *Eucalyptus melliodora*, one *Melaleuca stypheloides*, one *Angophora costata*, one *Eucalyptus cornuta* and one other *Eucalyptus* sp.

**Condition & Integrity:**

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

**Notes:** Remnant trees remain from the original garden, which has since been sub-divided.

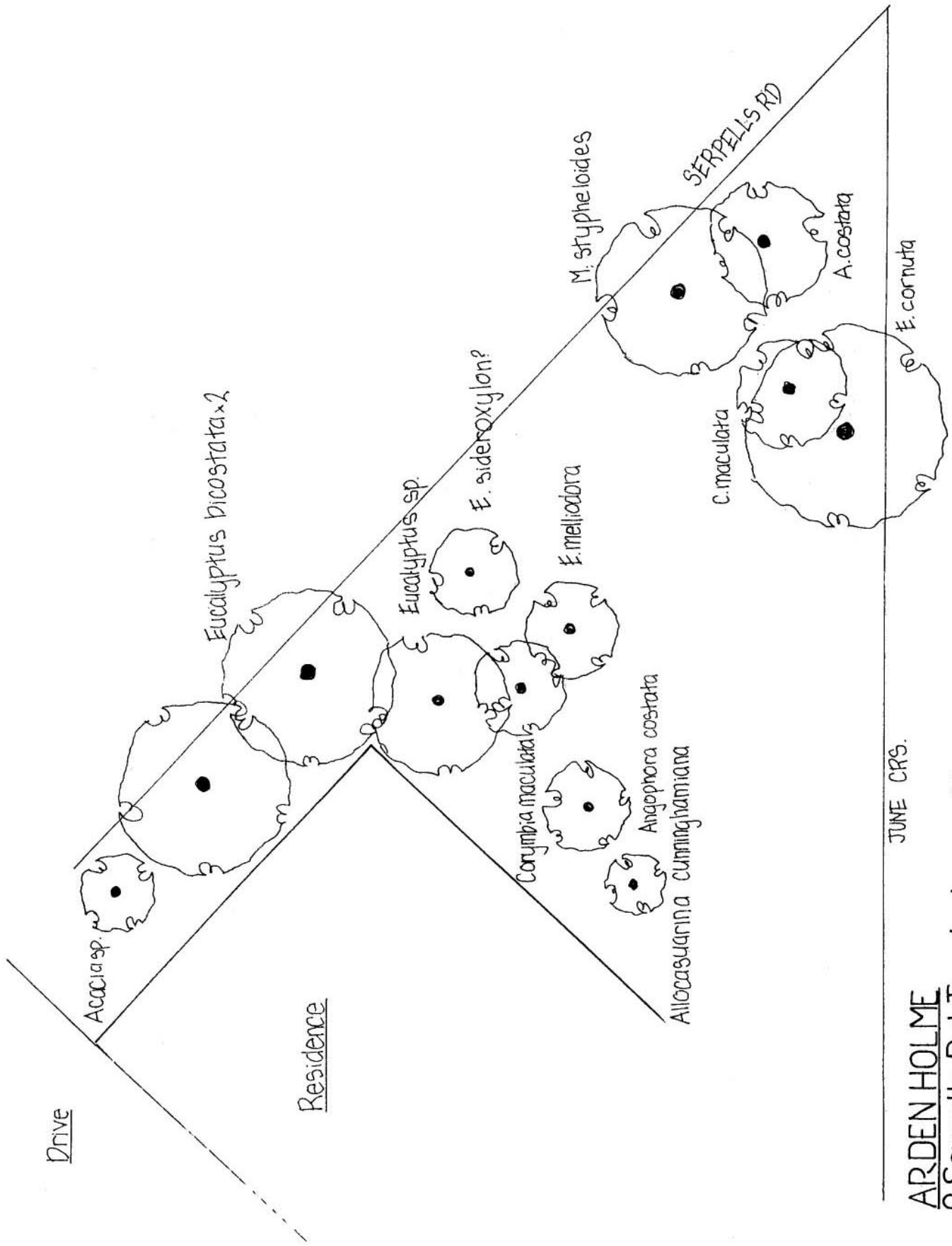
**Maintenance Practice/Requirements:** Remove Ivy from the acacia and the minor deadwood from within the canopies of the other trees. Have all trees assessed by a qualified arborist every two years with maintenance work being carried out at this time. When trees fail or require removal they should be replaced with the same species.

**Existing Overlay Controls:** No overlays

**Significant Elements:** "Ardenholm" at 9 Serpells Road, Templestowe is of local significance. It is significant for being designed by Edna Walling and for being one of the earliest of the gardens designed as part of the native garden movement. Due to the sub-division of the property a number of individual trees are all that remain of the original gardens, with these being the only significant elements.

**Recorded by:** Susan Tallon

**Date:** 2003



JUNE CRS.

ARDEN HOLME  
 9 Serpents Rd Templestowe Not To Scale