

Manningham Heritage Garden & Significant Tree Study

Significant Tree Information Sheet

Tree Identification No.: 39

Botanical Name: *Pyrus communis* "Black Achan"

Common Name: Black Achan Pear

Location: Ruffey Lake Park, Doncaster

Private land		Public land	X
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Melway Ref: 33 G9

Setting/Position: On the side of a hill beside the main walking track in Ruffey Lake Park.

No. of trees: 1

Height: 8m

Canopy Spread (m) E-W: 6.2m
N-S: 7.7m

DBH: 71cm at ground level.

Approx. Age of Tree: 130 years+

TPZ: 10.5m **CRZ:** 3.0m

Category of Significance:

Horticultural Value	X	Location or context	X	Rare or localised	X	Particularly old	X	Outstanding size	
Aesthetic value		Curious growth form		Historic value	X	Aboriginal culture		Outstanding eg. of species	

Level of Significance: State

History: Formerly within the grounds of Friedensruh, the pear is a remnant from the original orchard on the property. Purchased from Cole Nurseries in Hawthorn and planted by Gottlieb Thiele in 1860s. One of the first fruit trees planted in the Doncaster area and still bearing fruit today.

Health:

Pests/Diseases	X	Dead wood	X	Dieback	X
Stunted growth		Stress		Rot	
Leaf necrosis		Low foliage density		Possum damage	

Other/Notes: Minor pear and cherry slug problem. There is some dieback and dead limbs and significant rot in the base of the trunk

Health Rating: 2-3

Threats/Risks to Tree: Compaction, damage from the public.

Hazards/Risks:

Co-dominant branches	X	V-crotched	
Irregular branch structure		Low-hanging branches (unsafe)	
Diseased limbs		Other	X

Other/Notes: Trunk is starting to split and is presently cabled. Some dieback is present down the limbs. The main leader is decayed and another is rotten.



Structure Rating: 3

Works Required & Priority: Treat pear and cherry slug to prevent further infestation.

Management Prescriptions: Continue maintenance as before, cabling as required. Fencing off the tree to prevent public access would help reduce damage to the tree from the public, as well as reducing the risk to the public if the tree should fail. Propagate tree to ensure cultivar survival, and allow a descendant to be planted when the original tree fails or requires removal. Due to the age of the tree this should be commenced as matter of high priority.

Existing Overlay Controls: Heritage Overlay (HO170)

Statement of Significance: The Black Achan Pear in Ruffey Lake Park, Doncaster is of state significance for being a now uncommon cultivar, with this specimen being a valuable source of propagation material, to help maintain the cultivar and its genetic characteristics. The tree is also of high significance to the area, being one of the first fruit trees planted and connected to Manningham's orcharding history.

Overall Tree Rating: 2

Recorded by: Andrea Proctor/Susan Tallon

Date: 19-01-05

ID Confirmed: Andrea Proctor

Location Map and Key:

