

# PRINCE'S PARK

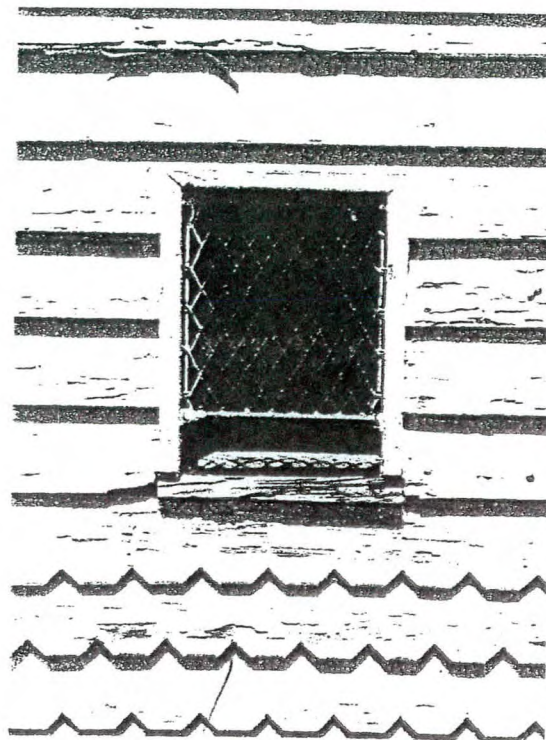
MARYBOROUGH

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CONSERVATION ANALYSIS

&

MASTER PLAN



Prepared for

**CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS  
SHIRE COUNCIL**

**John Patrick Pty Ltd**  
Landscape Architects  
Landscape Heritage Consultants

May 2000

② Prince's Park  
Maryborough  
Conservation Analysis  
&  
Master plan

**John  
Patrick  
Landscape  
Architects**

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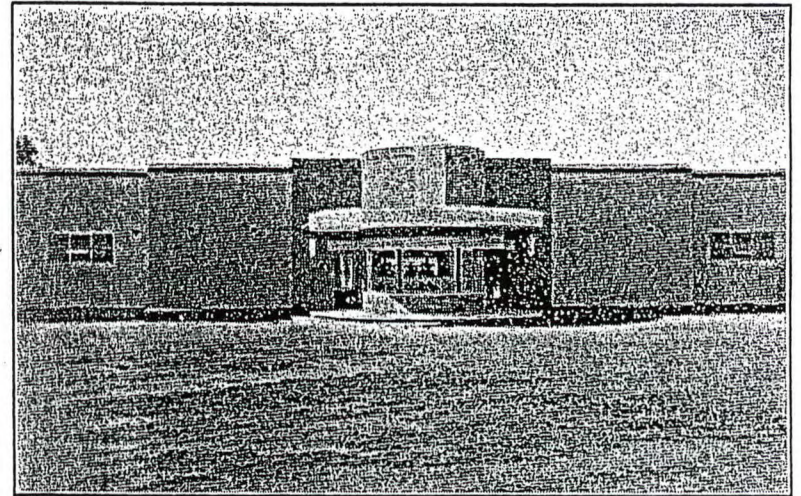
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**MAY  
2000**

# *Souvenir*

## MARYBOROUGH OLYMPIC SWIMMING POOL



*Maryborough Olympic Pool*  
Showing Main Entrance and  
Curved Glass Window of Kiosk

Officially Opened by  
Cr. F. BEAUREPAIRE  
(Lord Mayor of Melbourne)

Saturday, December 7th, 1940

# APPRECIATION

---

The publication of this Souvenir was made possible by the generosity of:

Filtration and Water Softening Pty. Ltd., 395 Collins Street, Melbourne: Suppliers of filtration and chlorination plant; capacity 25,000 gallons per hour.

The Australian Tesselated Tile Co. Pty. Ltd., 11 Queen Street, Melbourne: Manufacturers and suppliers of the tiling for both the main pool and children's paddling pool.

A.R.C. Engineering Co. Pty. Ltd., 430 Lit. Collins St., Melbourne: Suppliers of the necessary mild steel reinforcing rods for the construction of the main pool and children's paddling pool.

Phelan & Sons Pty. Ltd., High Street, Maryborough: Suppliers of hardwood for construction of framework for both pools.

G. R. Branton Pty. Ltd., Alma Street, Maryborough: Suppliers of glass and fittings for kiosk and dressing rooms.

Ernest Taylor, 77 High Street, Maryborough: Who supplied and installed the electrical fittings.

R. Hibbins, Victoria Street, Maryborough: Supplier of all timber and joinery for kiosk and dressing rooms.

Rocla Ltd., 99 Queen Street, Melbourne: Suppliers of reinforced concrete pipes, Rocla waterproofing compound as used in both pools.

Glazebrooks (Australia) Pty. Ltd., King William Street, Fitzroy: Suppliers of paint for both pools, and for interior and exterior of kiosk and dressing rooms.

J. H. Hedges, High Street, Maryborough: Supplier of lawn seed for beautification area.

John Danks & Son Pty. Ltd., 391 Bourke Street, Melbourne: Suppliers of handrailings for main pool.

L. Sinclair, Gillies Street, Maryborough: Who supplied and erected fibro plaster in the administrative buildings.

E. T. Cerini, Nolan Street, Maryborough: Manufacturer of one and three-metre diving stands.

F. Fishier Pty. Ltd., 176 High Street, Maryborough: Suppliers of garden utensils.

Hubble Bros. & Co. Pty. Ltd., Tuaggra Street, Maryborough: Suppliers of roofing sheets for kiosk.

Adjacent to the main pool is the children's paddling pool. This is hexagonal in shape and is 40 ft. wide. It has a capacity of 13,000 gallons, and varies in depth from 1 ft. to 2 ft. It is tiled similarly to the main pool, and is connected to the filtration plant. An 8 ft. concrete concourse is also provided. Overhead lighting for night bathing serves both the main pool and paddling pool.

The buildings, constructed of concrete blocks and cement rendered and colored, comprise two dressing rooms 40 ft. by 25 ft., including showers, sanitary blocks, clothes racks, seats and lockers, wash basins and mirrors. The floors are of concrete. The kiosk of 32 ft. by 12 ft. features a bent plate glass window. The entrance and departure halls are each 25 ft. by 4 ft. 6 in. The facade has ornamental texture bricks with cantilever verandah, steel ceiling and fascia containing the nameplate Municipal Olympic Pool. At the rear is a loggia and pergola, set off with striped awnings.

The whole area of the enclosure comprises  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres, of which approximately one acre is under lawns and ornamental shrubs. The cost of the undertaking was £8700, financed by loan of £6000, Government grants totalling £1290 and £1410 from Council revenue.

£ 17,600  
12,000 Loan  
2,580 Grant  
2,820 Rev



## The Council of the Borough of Maryborough, Vic.

INCORPORATED 1857



Mayor: John Sydney Stevens, J.P.

Councillors: John Lean, J.P., Samuel Poole, Joseph Black,  
Donald Gillies, J.P., Clive P. Stoneham, John T. Roscholler,  
Jack Pascoe, Vittorio V. Rinaldi.

Town Clerk: Stanley Charles Nicol.

Consulting Engineer: E. J. Muntz, B.C.E.

Construction Engineer: John U. Hocking.

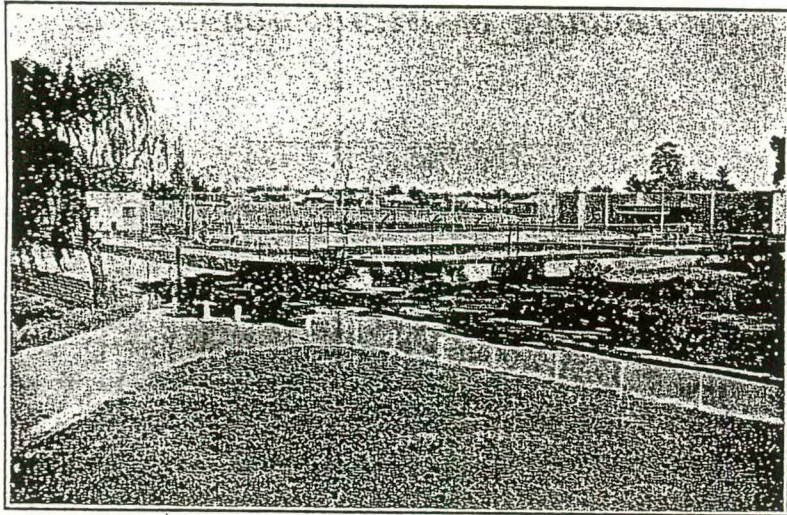
Consulting Architect: Edwin J. Peck.

Borough Foreman: Albert E. Black.

Baths Lessee: John Willet.

Baths Superintendent: Vernon Waller.

Council Baths Committee: The Mayor (Cr. J. S. Stevens),  
Crs. C. P. Stoneham, J. Pascoe, J. Roscholler and D. N. Gillies.



### *A Distant View*

A Panoramic View of the Pool and Buildings, showing the one and a half acres covered by the construction

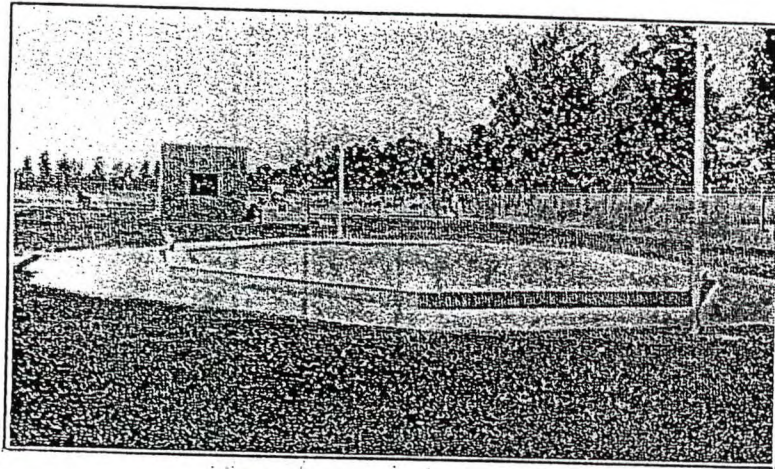


possible, the sporting activities of the town in this 80 acres enclosure, and one of the most outstanding and picturesque parks in any Australian country town. *Maryborough Olympic Pool*

The Maryborough pool is full Olympic standard. It has a length of 165 ft. and width of 50 ft., varying in depth from 3 ft. to 5 ft. over a distance of 123 ft., then dipping sharply to 10 ft. (over 20 ft.) for diving purposes, and continuing at that depth for 12 ft., rising again over the last 10 ft. to 7 ft. It has reinforced concrete floor and walls, treated with Permoglaze swimming pool dressing. The scum gutter and pediment top, together with the steps at the shallow end, are tiled. Racing lanes are provided and numbered. The pool is surrounded by an 8 ft. concrete concourse. Two steel stands are available for one and three-metre diving boards, with adjustable fulcrums.

The pool holds approximately 265,000 gallons, and the water is treated every 10 hours by the latest scientific and hygienic methods. Seventy-five per cent. of the soiled water is removed from the pool by means of adjustable gratings set in the floor along each side. These gratings are connected to a 9 in. by 4 in. soiled water channel which, in turn, connects to an 8 in. cast iron pipe. The other 25 per cent. is taken off by means of outlets in the scum gutter, which are also linked with the soiled water channel. The sediment on the floor of the pool is removed by means of a suction cleaner incorporated with the plant.

The filtered water is returned to the pool by means of five gratings set in the floor along the centre line. The flow through these gratings is controlled by means of valves in the plant house. Thus any part of the pool can be isolated and the maximum rate of change located where the bathing load is highest. Before passing through the filters the water is treated with filter alum. This causes coagulation, and results in the most minute particle of matter being removed by the filters. On leaving the filters the water is purified by chlorine. Scientific experiments have proved that every germ that attacks the human body is killed by this method of sterilisation, which yet leaves the water definitely non-injurious.

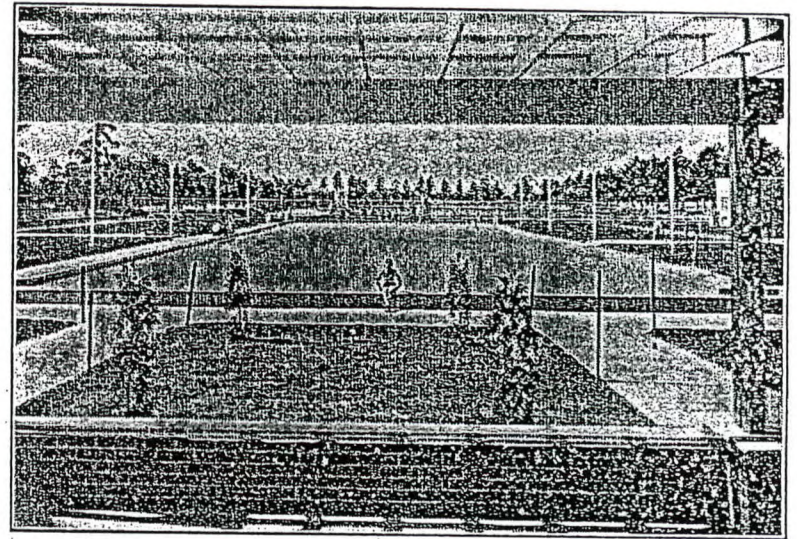


*Children's Paddling Pool*

Situated to the East of the Main Pool, but within the same enclosure

therefore, is such provision in inland towns not so richly endowed by Nature and where limited water supplies must always be considered? The modern pool, too, has scientific advantages which the ancient works could not possess. The bathing pool, treated such as that in Maryborough, can now never become foul, and the process which keeps it fresh and pure results also in an economy of water. This does not mean that river bathing and surfing are not healthy and invigorating exercises. It is only a hint that connected with them are some unwholesome, unhygienic features which are eliminated by the scientific hygiene of the modern Maryborough pool.

Swimming in Maryborough had its first impetus with the construction of the municipal baths in 1901 at a cost of £598, financed by loan. As much as this might have been appreciated at the time, and during the subsequent 39 years, certain objectionable features were always inseparable. Apart from this deficiency the baths proved inadequate in size and accommodation for the patronage offering, and the Council wisely considered the construction of an entirely new and larger pool as preferable to any alteration of the old. The site was transferred to Princes Park in keeping with the settled policy to confine, as much as

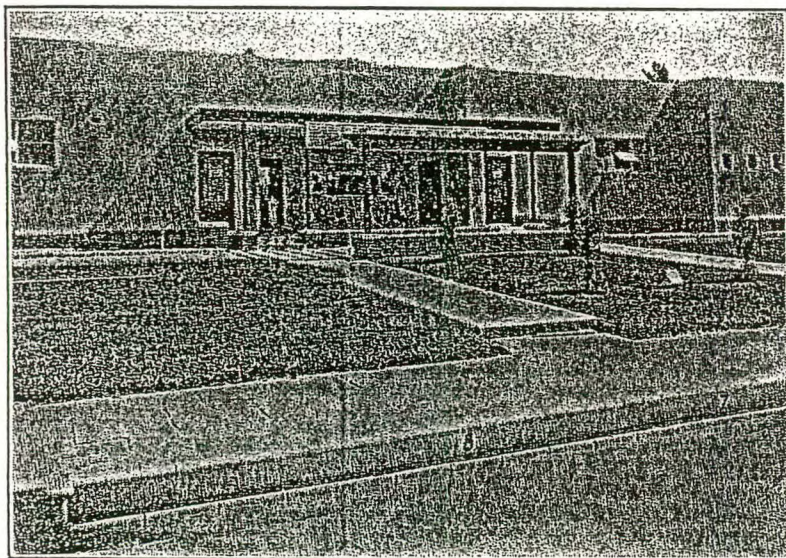


*The Main Pool*

An Attractive View from the Loggia, with Pergola in the foreground

## *SWIMMING---Ancient and Modern*

**S**WIMMING in Maryborough assumes greater significance with the construction of the Olympic Pool in Princes Park. Its introduction is in keeping with the progress and prosperity of the town in other directions; it meets with the approbation of the people, and is destined to prove of far reaching benefit, not only to the town itself, but, more important still, the young generation of the community, to whom knowledge of swimming is so important. Believing that proficiency in the art could be acquired only through modern, hygienic and safe facilities, and realising that Maryborough, as a centrally situated and expanding town, was entitled, where possible, to some of the amenities enjoyed in larger centres, the Council of the Municipality decided upon the construction of a pool that would serve the present and future requirements of the people. That which has been achieved is viewed with pride as evidence of practical service due to the community.

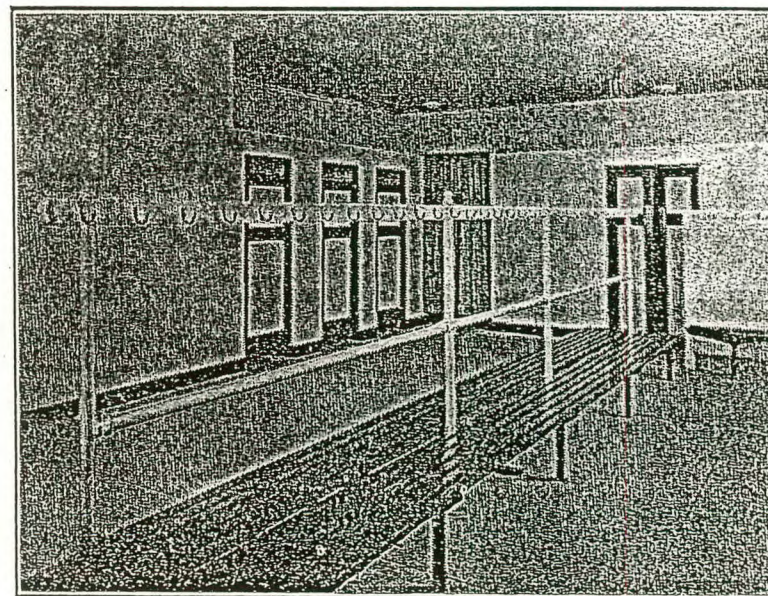


*The Pergola and Loggia*

An Attractive View looking south from the Main Pool

History commends such an asset as Maryborough now possesses. Even with the blue waters of the Mediterranean lapping their shores the cities, ancient and modern, of that region have luxuriated in the possession of more or less magnificent public baths. Rome had as many as 850 of these structures, either public works or donated to the public by wealthy citizens, and many of them capable of accommodating more than 1000 bathers. In warm climates, whether close to the sea or river, or far inland, such provision is universally seen in all cities possessing a sufficient water supply. And in more recent years the older countries of Europe have had to make similar provision in the interests of public health. All the great Roman Emperors were identified in the building, or completion, of such works.

To the whole civilised world this movement has extended. In our own Commonwealth pools of Olympic standard have been constructed in Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide and Brisbane. Enterprising and progressive inland towns have seen the necessity and seized the opportunity, and it is to this latter select category



*A Section of the Dressing Rooms*

Showing Clothes Rack in the foreground; Private Cubicles and Shower Recess at the rear

that Maryborough is now fortunately linked. The up-to-date swimming pool, like the great public baths of past ages is, in our generation, one of the last words of hygienic civilisation. It is one of the factors helping to maintain and improve bodily fitness and athletic growth, to confer freedom from illness, and to give an invigoration of physical health and beauty, much to be desired at a time when general national fitness, as the chief essential to a virile race, is being sought by the leaders of the nation. For the undoubted benefit that it will afford in this direction the value of such a public utility cannot be measured in money, and, despite the heavy initial cost involved, Maryborough is not premature in its action. Time will, we feel confident, vindicate the action which has been taken.

Modern swimming pools have been found imperative even where splendid surfing beaches, the playgrounds of thousands of people during hot weather, exist. How much more important,

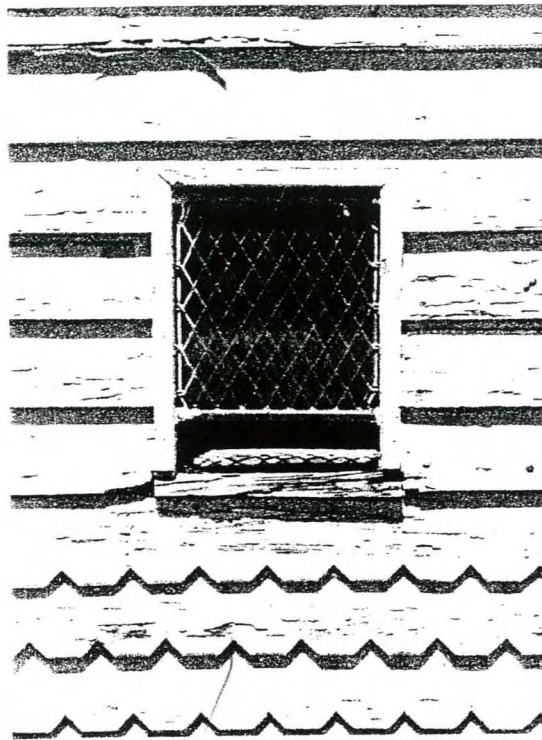


# PRINCE'S PARK

MARYBOROUGH

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## CONSERVATION ANALYSIS & MASTER PLAN



Prepared for

**CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS  
SHIRE COUNCIL**

**John Patrick Pty Ltd**  
Landscape Architects  
Landscape Heritage Consultants

May 2000

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## **CONSULTANTS**

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This report was prepared by John Patrick Pty Ltd Landscape Architects and Landscape Heritage Consultants.

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Jeremy Minter  
Yen Vu  
Simon Howe  
Meg Gallacher

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 Background and Brief

The Central Goldfields Shire Council requires a Master Plan for Prince's Park which identifies its conservation values so as to ensure that any proposed development works are undertaken in a manner that will cause minimum detriment to the Park's heritage values. The need for the Study arose as a result of funding being obtained to upgrade various facilities in the park as well as certain other works under consideration. Funding and grants include a DNRE Grant (Crown Land Reserves Improvement Program), a Heritage Victoria Grant for the swimming pool complex and funding from Sport and Recreation Victoria.

### 1.2 Scope and Methodology

This report follows the principles set out in the Australia ICOMOS (International Council of Monuments and Sites) Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter) and the Charter's guidelines, adopted by Australia ICOMOS to assist in the planning and conservation of heritage places. The report is also based broadly on the format for the preparation of conservation plans set out in JS Kerr's *The Conservation Plan: A Guide to the Preparation of Conservation Plans for Places of European Cultural Significance*.

Background material supplied by Council included: *The City of Maryborough Heritage Study*, 1992 by David Bick et al, *Maryborough A Social History 1854 – 1904*, (1985) by Osborn and DuBourg, *Against the Odds Maryborough 1905 – 1961*, (1995) by Betty Osborn and *Maryborough Main Drain 1870 - 1915*, (1997) by Bruce Osborn. A tree identification and condition report prepared by Trevor Lawrence in June 1999 was also provided by Council.

Additional historical and photographic material was provided by Councillor Geoff Lovett, the Midlands Historical Society, Friends of Our Parks, the Highland Society and the Maryborough Fire Brigade. Research was carried out in the Department of Natural Resources & Environment's reserves file, the Council minute books and the Latrobe Library Picture Gallery. Discussions were held with local identities, Council staff, DNRE Historic Places and Freshwater Ecology Sections and Heritage Victoria. Some historical dates have not been fully researched due to time limitations; these include dates of removal of the original cycle track around the oval, the possible extension of the oval itself and the construction of the Art Deco toilet block.

### 1.3 Heritage Listings and Classifications

Details of the following listings are included in Appendix B of this report. Note that the entire Prince's Park has also been nominated for inclusion on the Victorian Heritage Register.

#### *Victorian Heritage Register*

Maryborough Municipal Olympic Swimming Complex. VHR No. H1319  
The entire park was nominated for inclusion on the Register in 1998.

#### *National Trust of Australia (Victoria)*

Municipal Olympic Swimming Pool Complex - Maryborough. No. 6801

Bandstand - Maryborough. No. 2646

*National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Significant Trees Register*

*Brachychiton acerifolius* Flame Tree (Recorded)

*Juniperus phoenicea* Phoenician Juniper (Classified)

*Register of the National Estate*

Band Rotunda, Maryborough. No. 004241

## 1.4 Land Status

Refer to the attached plan of part of the Township of Maryborough showing the full area of Prince's Park Recreation Reserve (*Figure 1.1*). The status of the different component areas is as follows.

Crown Allotment 1E, Section 65A, Township of Maryborough, being the remaining area permanently reserved for public recreation by Order in Council of 26 October 1863, for which a Crown Grant was issued in favour of the Mayor, Councillors and Burgesses of the Borough of Maryborough on 31 August 1864. This is the original reserve on the eastern side of Park Road.

Crown Allotment 1, Section 65A, Township of Maryborough, being the remaining area permanently reserved for public recreation by Order in Council of 23 January 1895, for which a Crown Grant was issued in favour of the Mayor, Councillors and Burgesses of the Borough of Maryborough and the Board of Land and Works on 1 February 1895. This allotment increased the reservation to the north and east. Note that the Department of Natural Resources and Environment is the legal successor to the former Board of Land and Works.

Crown Allotments 1A, 1B, 1C and 1D, Section 65A, Township of Maryborough, being the areas temporarily reserved for public recreation by Order in Council of 23 October 1939, for which the Maryborough Borough Council was appointed as committee of management on 15 June 1949. These allotments were former road reserves that were unused.

The Swimming Pool forms a Heritage Overlay on the planning scheme as it is on the Victoria Heritage Register.

## 1.5 Terminology

The conservation terminology used in this report is of a specific nature, and is defined within the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (the Burra Charter) as endorsed by the Australian Heritage Commission (Appendix A). The terms most frequently referred to are: **place, cultural significance, fabric, conservation, preservation, restoration reconstruction and adaptation.**

'Place' means site, area, building or other work, group of buildings or other works together with associated contents and surroundings.

'Cultural Significance' means aesthetic, historic, scientific or social value for past, present or future generations.



**'Fabric'** means all the physical material of the place.

**'Conservation'** means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance. It includes maintenance and may according to circumstances include preservation, restoration, reconstruction and adaptation and will be commonly a combination of more than one of these.

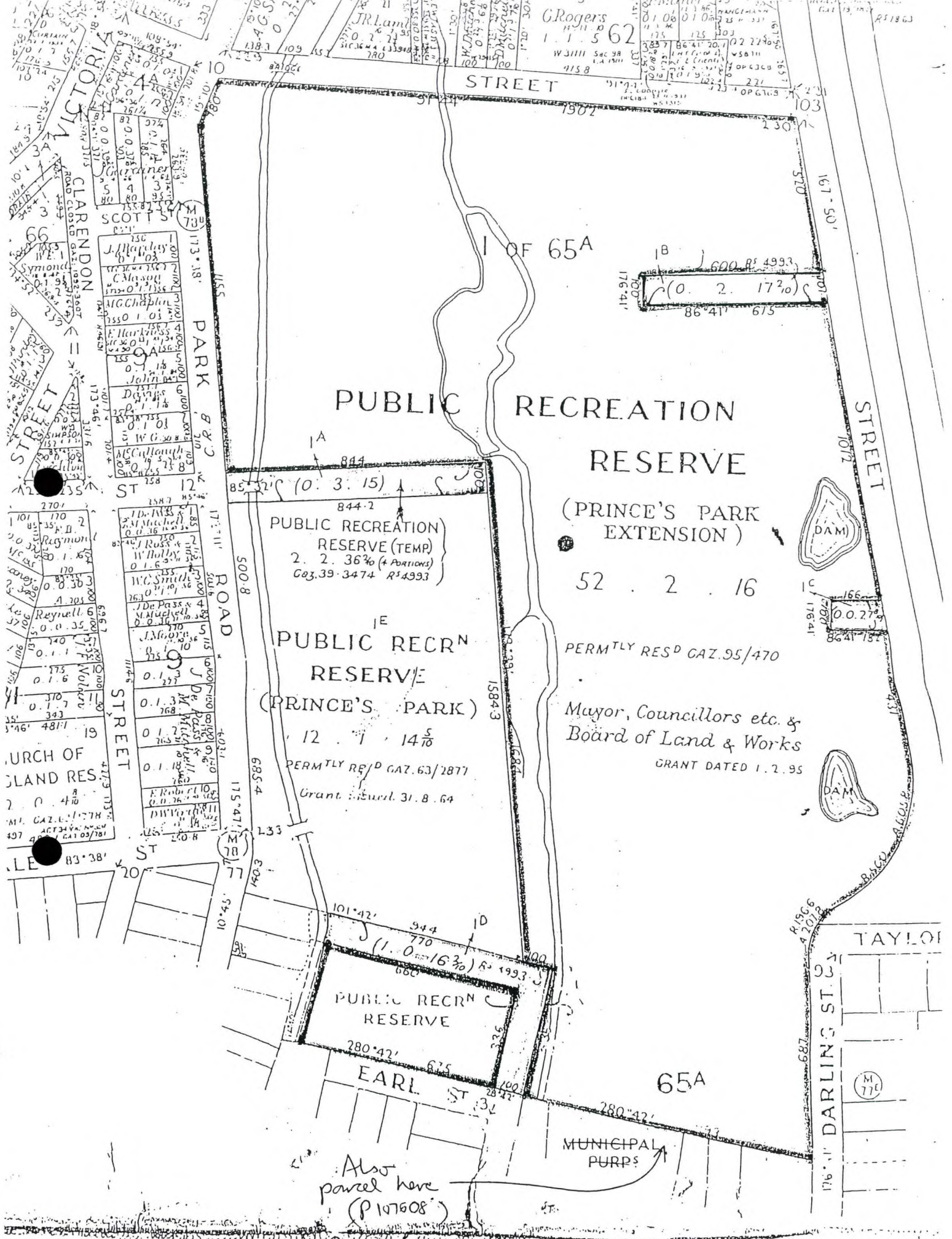
**'Preservation'** means maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

**'Restoration'** means returning the existing fabric of a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling the existing components without the introduction of new material.

**'Reconstruction'** means returning a place as nearly as possible to a known earlier state and is distinguished by the introduction of materials (new or old) into the fabric. This is not to be confused with either re-creation or conjectural reconstruction that are outside the scope of this Charter.

**'Adaptation'** means modifying a place to suit proposed compatible uses.

*Figure 1.1 Public Recreation Reserve Land Status*



G Rogers  
1.1.562

STREET

PUBLIC RECREATION RESERVE

(PRINCE'S PARK EXTENSION)

52 . 2 . 16

PERM'TLY RES'D CAZ. 95/470

Mayor, Councillors etc. &  
Board of Land & Works  
GRANT DATED 1.2.95

PUBLIC RECREATION RESERVE (TEMP)  
2. 2. 36% (+ PORTIONS)  
C03.39.3474 R\$4993

PUBLIC RECRN RESERVE  
(PRINCE'S PARK)

12 . 7 . 14 5/10  
PERM'TLY RES'D CAZ. 63/2877  
Grant issued 31.8.64

PUBLIC RECRN RESERVE

EARL ST

MUNICIPAL PURPS

Also parcel here (P107608)  
- Part of Prince's Park



TAYLOR



*Figure 1.2 Site Plan - 1989 Aerial Photograph*



## 2.0 CONTEXTUAL HISTORY

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This brief history draws largely on historical research previously undertaken by Bick, Kellaway, Milner and Patrick for the *City of Maryborough Heritage Study, 1992* together with reference to Osborn & DuBourg *Maryborough - A Social History 1854 – 1904* and Betty Osborn *Against the Odds - Maryborough 1905 – 1961*.

### 2.1 The Pre Gold Era

Prior to European settlement, the land where the township of Maryborough began was originally part of a vast territory occupied by the Jajowurrong (or Djadjawurrung) tribe of Aborigines who named the area Tuaggra. However, with European occupation, the aboriginal population declined, mainly due to the introduction of diseases.

Following Major Mitchell's 1836 expedition of exploration and his glowing reports of "Australia Felix" and the vast reservoir of exploitable resources in the region, many pioneer settlers arrived with their flocks in the Port Phillip district.

The 1840s saw the arrival of Donald, Hector and John Simson, who were the first pastoral settlers in the Maryborough area. Significantly, it was on the Simson brothers' land that the first gold was discovered and the township of Maryborough was eventually established.

### 2.2 1854 – 1916: The Making of Maryborough as a Goldfields Town

Whilst it is not clear when gold was first discovered in Maryborough, it is clear that the rushes to the district were in 1854. Gold Commissioner John Bull reported on May 30 that, "a small creek has lately been occupied by miners called Four Mile Creek near Charlotte Plains. At present 100 miners are there, the majority of whom are doing well."<sup>1</sup>

The next major discovery that caused a large rush, occurred 4km from the present township of Maryborough, where a rich wash containing nuggets was found. Main Lead and Blackman's Lead, (which pass through the area now occupied by Prince's Park), together with California Gully, Adelaide Lead and the Alma, were all sites of major rushes. Miners then turned their attention to the shallow gullies draining the hills east of Maryborough. Some gullies produced nuggets weighing up to 700ozs, whilst Blackman's Lead produced a 1034oz nugget.

The numbers of miners in the Maryborough rush grew rapidly from 700 in June 1854 to about 30,000 in September of the same year. This was because thousands were leaving the Avoca goldfields for Maryborough, now believed to be the richest ground source since the discovery of "Eagle Hawk" in the Bendigo Diggings. However, with new finds occurring in the surrounding districts, the population at the original Maryborough diggings did not peak for long, although the decline was stemmed by the arrival of the Chinese. Up to 800 were reported to be in Maryborough by April 1856.<sup>2</sup>

Before being named Maryborough, the settlement had been called Tuaggra, the aboriginal name, Four Mile Creek, Simson's Ranges or Simson's Diggings. It was Commissioner James Daly who decided to call it after his hometown Maryborough in Ireland, which had received its name from Queen Mary I. This was gazetted officially in 1856.<sup>3</sup>

Early descriptions of Maryborough suggest a typical gold town of the period before the establishment of local government. One early resident describes it as having a:

dense forest of iron bark trees and flowering shrubs. I saw it when the main street buildings were composed of slabs and calico, and its surroundings dotted with thousands of tents – the only habitation of the miners. At night, camp fires could be seen everywhere...and miners flitting about, preparing their evening meal, and afterwards adjourned to the street to enjoy the various amusements provided for them in the shape of singing, dancing saloons, bowling alleys, shooting galleries etc. Others amused themselves possum shooting, others with colonial beer and whisky<sup>4</sup>

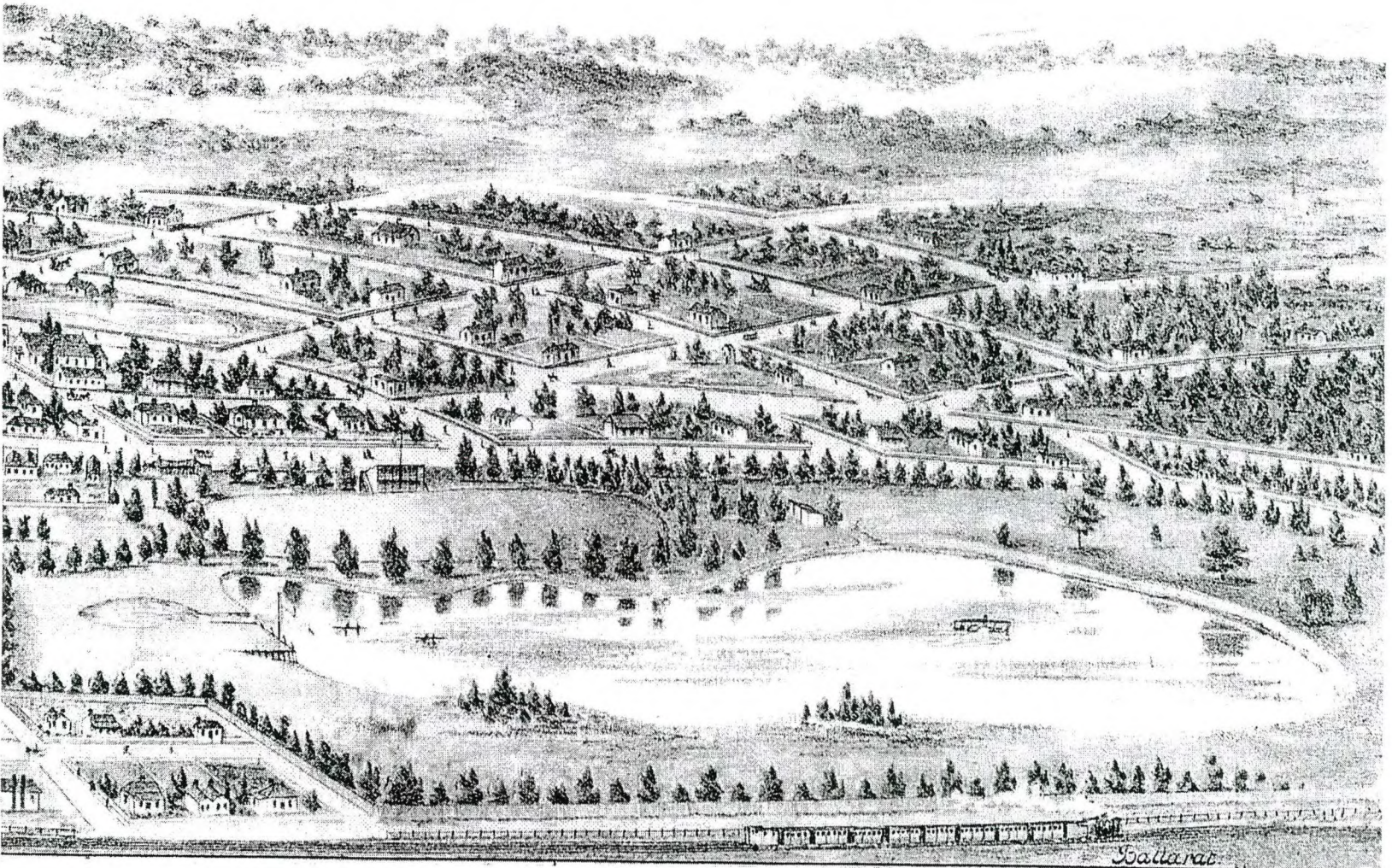
By the time Maryborough was proclaimed a municipality on 3 March 1857, the town had less than 5,000 inhabitants, most of who owned the stores or hotels, or were employees of the owners, plus a few tradesmen. It was this group that continued to be the most powerful in the town throughout the nineteenth century and beyond.

1857 was also the year that saw the enhancement of quality of life for local inhabitants with the introduction of public reserves. In September 1857, the Maryborough Cricket Club presented a petition to the Town Council requesting that a piece of ground on the flat opposite Nightingale Street be reserved for the use of the club as a place of public amusement.<sup>5</sup> As the Town Clerk, JC Hooper was also the secretary of the Cricket Club, the petition was well received and the application approved by the government. Formed in 1857, the reserve was permanently reserved in October, 1863. The area of 12 acres, 1 rood and 145.5 perches was named Prince's Park<sup>6</sup>, presumably after the Prince of Wales' marriage in May earlier that year. Since 1858, the Highland games have been held there on New Year's Day making it Australia's oldest continuous sporting event. The reserve was also used by non-sporting bodies such as the Mariner's Reef Volunteer Rifle Corps, later the Maryborough Rifles, who used it as a drilling ground from 1859<sup>7</sup>.

All of the immediate problems that drove the campaign to have the town gazetted, that is lack of adequate water supply, the lack of good roads, an inadequate postal service and the need to maintain law and order, were secured at least partially. Another achievement for Maryborough's was its successful tender against the neighbouring towns of Carisbrook and Dunolly for a regional gaol in 1858-59. The gaol helped to boost the local economy with its construction giving work to local contractors and labourers and its on-going supply requirements assisting local businesses. In addition, prisoners were used for public works such as making roads and, in Prince's Park, excavating a lagoon and embankment made from the excavated material.

Early developments within the park included perimeter fencing, to exclude wandering stock, and tree planting in wire guards. Cricket matches were played against a Victorian IX in 1860 and an English IX in 1864. Two oak trees were planted as part of a ceremony held on 19 May 1863 to celebrate the wedding of the Prince of Wales and Princess Alexandra<sup>8</sup>. A further 62 young trees requested by Council, and selected personally by the Assistant Commissioner for the Lands Department, Clement Hodgkinson, were planted in 1869<sup>9</sup>. The first football match on the ground was played against Avoca in 1872<sup>10</sup>.

The lagoon excavation commenced in February 1883 as a result of Fred Hughes, Borough surveyor and Town Clerk, drawing up plans for the lake to be a quarter of a mile long and about the same area as Lake Weeroona, Sandhurst. The park had been increased in size to the north and east by the addition of 52 acres, 2 roods and 16 perches and was temporarily reserved with permanent reservation not occurring until 1895.<sup>11</sup> On 20 June 1887, the lagoon was named Lake Victoria in honour of the Queen's jubilee. The lake proved difficult to fill with 300,000 gallons of water from Evansford Reservoir in 1887 making little impression. Storm water diverted from a main drain diversion eventually filled the lake in the winter of 1887 (*Figure 2.1*). The lithographic view showed pines planted to the perimeter of the park and around the oval. There were no islands in the lake at this time.



*Figure 2.1 1887 Lithograph view of Prince's Park. (Supplied by Central Goldfields Shire)*



It was also during this time that William Guilfoyle, Director of the Melbourne Botanic Gardens, came to Maryborough for two days. On 19 February 1883, the local press reported the visit:

On Friday Mr W. R. Guilfoyle, the director of the Botanical Gardens, Melbourne, visited Maryborough, at the invitation of the borough council, and with the consent of his department. The reserve between Alma and Napier streets [*i.e.*, *Phillips Gardens*] was inspected by him, and elicited his entire approbation. He gave Mr Lunn, the gardener, great credit for the ornate manner in which he had laid the gardens out, and took interest in several rare plants growing luxuriantly here, which he said could not reach such a degree of maturity in the climate of Melbourne. Subsequently, Mr Guilfoyle, in the company with the town clerk and one or two members of the public works committee of the council, visited the scene of the excavations for the lake at Prince's Park. The plan of the proposed improvements was shown him, and he expressed entire approval. Mr Guilfoyle then proceeded to lay off the ground which will surround the lake in paths and beds by means of diagrams on paper, advising various parts to be planted with shrubs, flowers, and trees. He recommended that for the purpose of beautifying the water at least two islands should stud the lake. Mr Guilfoyle promised to supply the council with some suitable shrubs by the time the lake is completed and to give a week's personal attention to the work of planting. He considers that a more favourable soil than old diggings for raising vegetable products of the useful or ornamental kind cannot be found providing the ground is properly prepared.<sup>12</sup>

Despite the government questioning the propriety of using prison labour for public works, prisoners were also used in to carry out earth works for a section of the main drain in Prince's Park. The local stone, bluestone and brick-lined drains that still pass through the city today are the natural creek beds lined to serve the town's storm water needs. Blackman's Lead arm and the main drain meet in Prince's Park making them landscape and garden elements as well as serving their main function (*Figure 2.9*).

In 1885, cast iron gates and fencing were erected at the entrance to Prince's Park. The council stipulated that the gates and fencing had to be similar in appearance to those at the Melbourne Exhibition Building. Along with the cemetery gates, these are Maryborough's finest example of nineteenth century ironwork (*Figure 2.2*).



*Figure 2.2* Entrance Gates c.1909. (Midlands Historical Society)

Further improvements to Prince's Park were made in 1895 with the construction of the magnificent grandstand. The Council called for a report in 1892 on the probable cost of a grandstand in Prince's Park. Impressed with the grandstand in South Melbourne, it was envisaged that a similar stand to cost £800 - £1000, and seating 600 people was required. As money was scarce, it was two years later before the money was borrowed and plans drawn up. As the pavilion which had been removed from the market square in the 1860s and erected in the park had never been a success (*Figure 2.3*), it was sold for removal. The Melbourne architectural firm of Thomas Watts and Sons prepared plans in 1894 and the successful tenderer was W.J. Dingle with a quotation of £1,152 6s 0d. By the end of 1894, the grandstand was nearly completed for the cost of £1300.<sup>13</sup> (*Figure 2.4*)

Other additions to Prince's Park at this time included the construction of an angled asphalt bicycle track to be 360 yards in perimeter and 6 yards wide. The cost was to be £162, towards which the Bike club offered either £21 or help in building a new dirt track. In 1897, a banked asphalt track was built at a cost of £211, with the Highland Society agreeing to pay one-tenth of the cost annually. Also in 1899, the Town clerk recommended that the oval in front of the grandstand be ploughed and sown to grass. This occurred during the following year.<sup>14</sup> There is no doubt that these features caught the eye of the writer of the *Cyclopaedia of Victoria* in 1904, which saw Prince's Park as a grand area and within it a seventeen acre lake, "the shore of which are beautified with willow trees, while green grow the rushes on the margin of the water". Mention is also made of the grandstand and the "excellent cycling track".<sup>15</sup> In the following year, 1905, the island was added to the northern end of Lake Victoria, notwithstanding Guilfoyle's 1883 recommendation for the construction of two such islands.

1905 was also the year that Prince's Park was enhanced further by the building of the band rotunda as a permanent reminder of the town's golden jubilee in 1904. As the lowest tender was £140, the project was initially deferred. Eventually the Town Clerk, H N Phillips, was authorised to prepare a plan and have the work carried out for a cost not greater than £125. In December 1905 the rotunda was finished, complete with gas lighting for a cost of £130. Showing the cast iron work of the Soho Foundry, the rotunda has been classified by the National Trust.<sup>16</sup> A metal strap bridge was constructed over the main drain in 1909 (*Figure 2.7*) to replace the previous bridge (*Figure 2.5*).

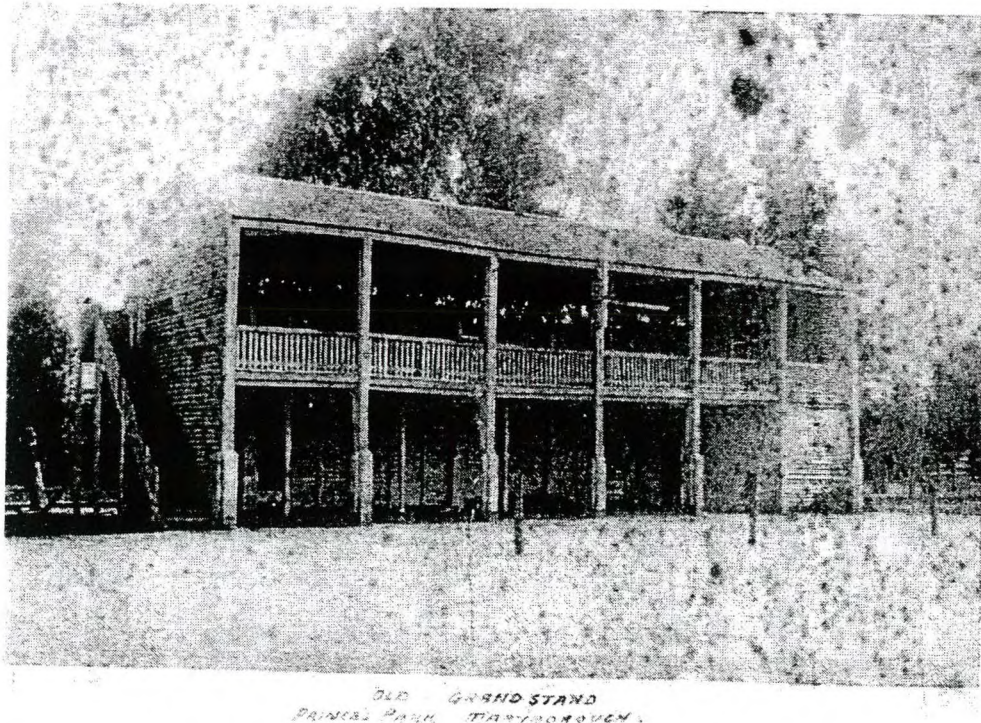
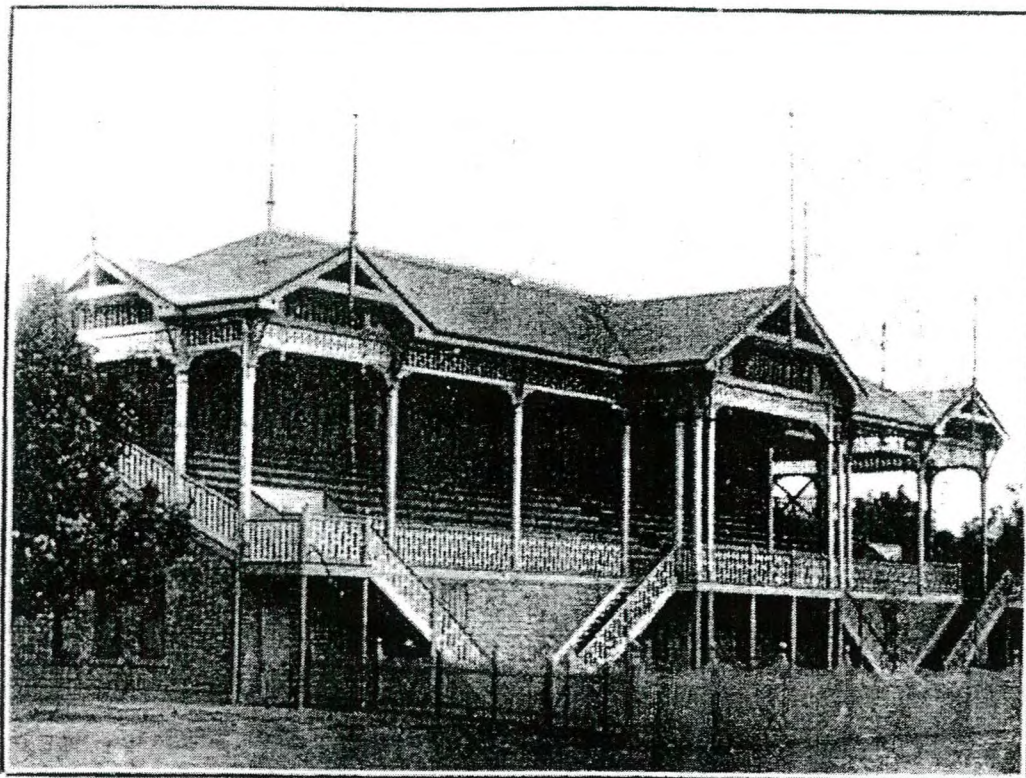


Figure 2.3 Old Pavilion erected 1860s. (Midlands Historical Society)



Grand Stand, Princes Park, Maryborough.

Figure 2.4 New grandstand built 1895. This view c.1905. (Midlands Historical Society)



Figure 2.5 Old Bridge seen in 1905 floods. (Midlands Historical Society)

Entrance to Prince's Park, Maryborough

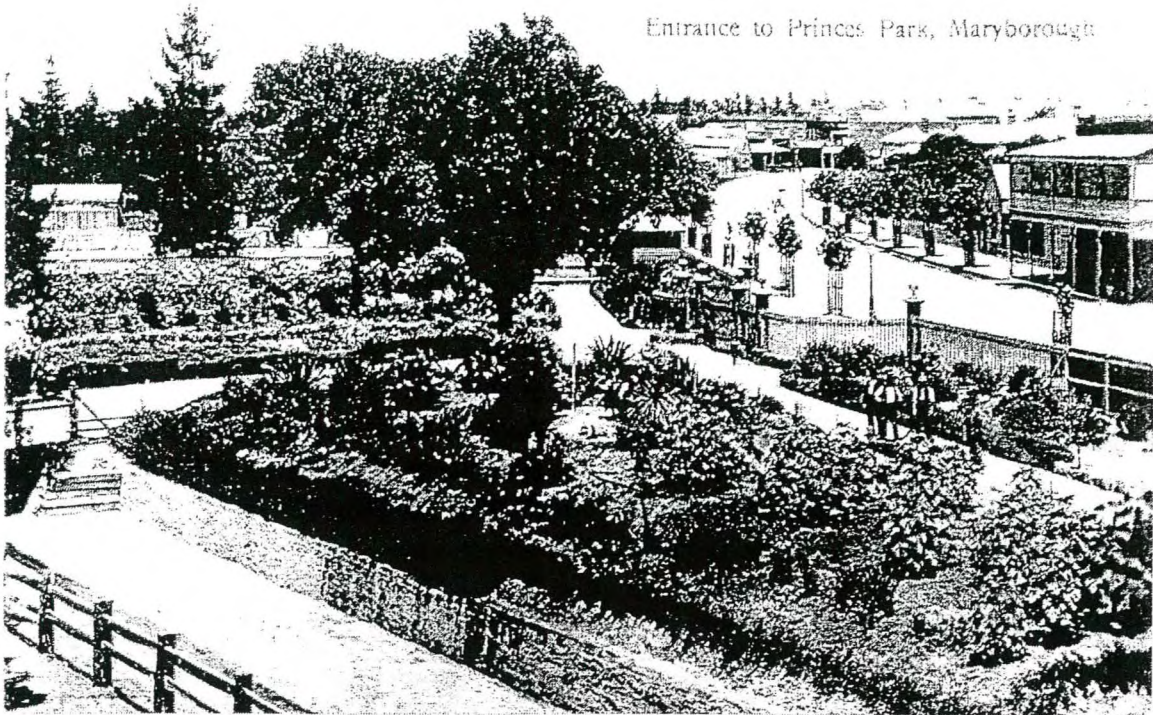
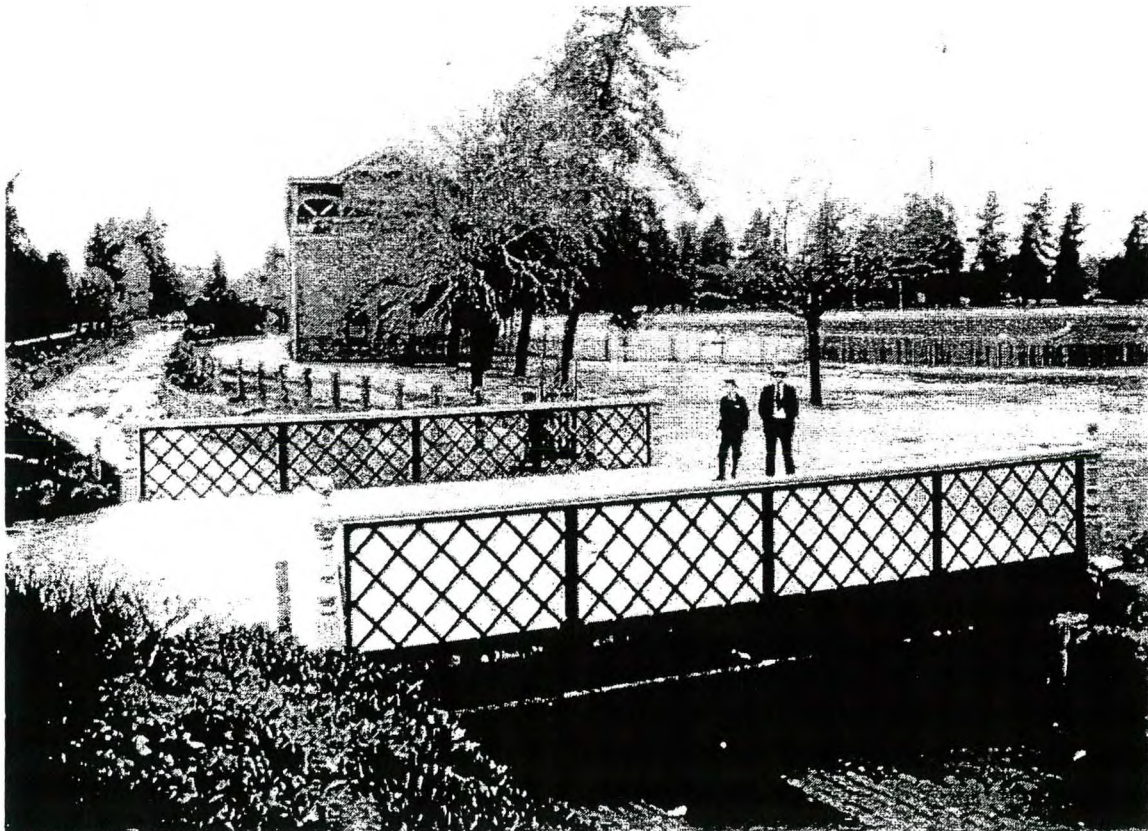


Figure 2.6 Old entrance gates to Prince's Park and garden c. 1908. (Midlands Historical Society)



Bridge Prince's Park Main Entrance 1909

Figure 2.7 New bridge constructed in 1909. (Midlands Historical Society)

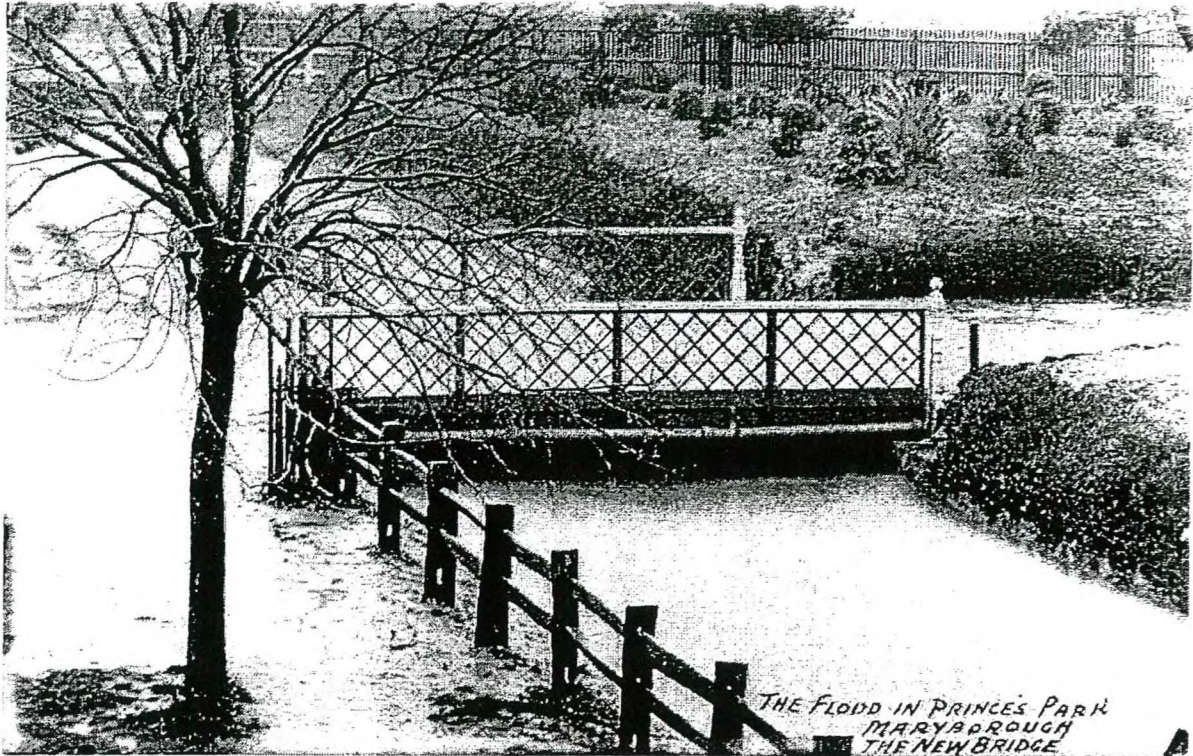


Figure 2.8 Flooding at the new bridge August 1909. (Midlands Historical Society)

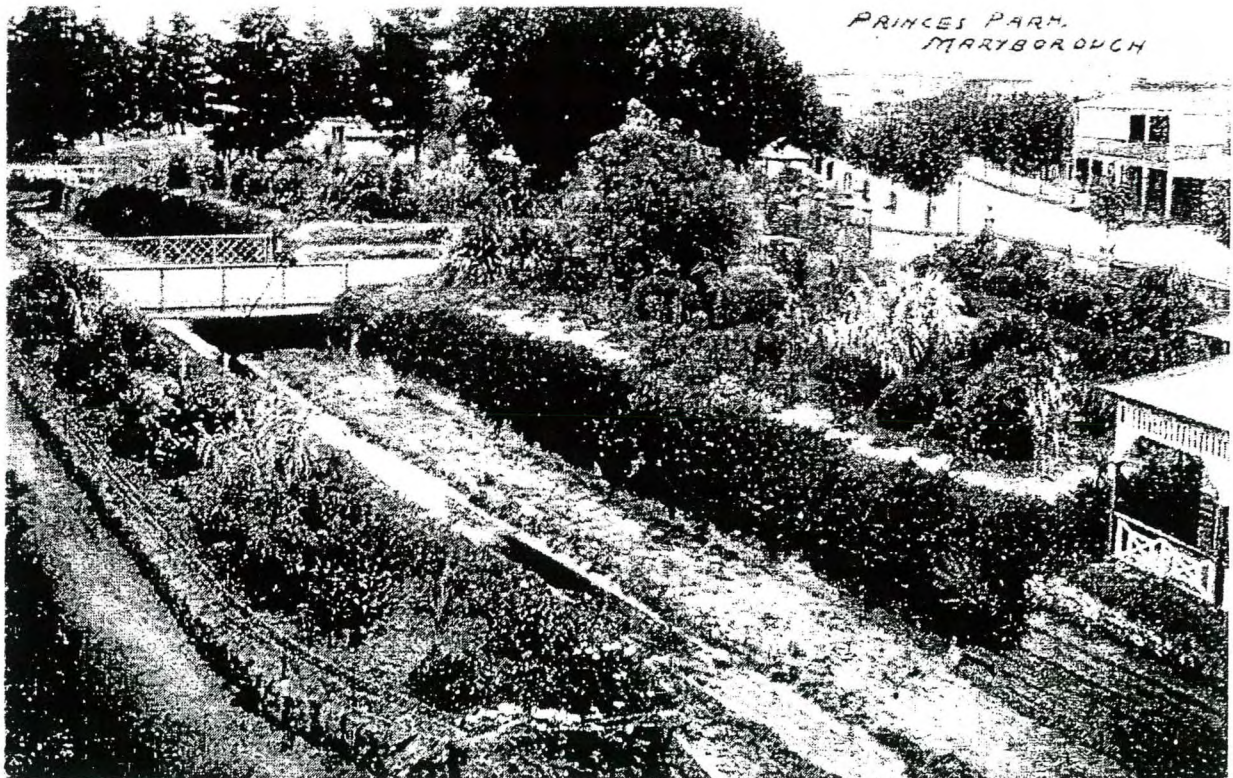


Figure 2.9 Main drain and entrance garden c.1912. Note timber footbridge in top left hand corner. The Ladies Cloak Room is on the right. (Midlands Historical Society).

A ticket box was constructed on Park Road south of the main entrance gates in 1908, where part of the cast iron fence was removed. This development seems to have coincided with the formation of gardens immediately inside the front entrance and up to the main drain. (Figure 2.6) E Swansson was appointed as the Borough gardener in 1908. When the bridge over the drain was replaced in 1909, a post and rail fence still lined the eastern side with pines and elms planted beside the grandstand and oval (Figure 2.7). Around 1912 the garden was extended to the eastern side of the drain, replacing the post and rail fencing with a rock-edged planting bed and a metal strap fence (Figure 2.9). A timber footbridge spanned the drain at the south-eastern end of the garden, connecting with a diagonal pathway from the entrance gates.

### 2.3 1917 Onwards: Post Gold Era

The beginning for the twentieth century saw the decline of the mining boom, which meant the steady erosion of the standard of living for the inhabitants of towns like Maryborough. Whilst the outbreak of World War I provided a diversion and some opportunities, it soon became a dreaded event as evidenced in 1917 on the Prince's Park gates where 115 names of soldiers who were killed were denoted with a cross out of the 498 enlistments etched on the granite.<sup>17</sup>

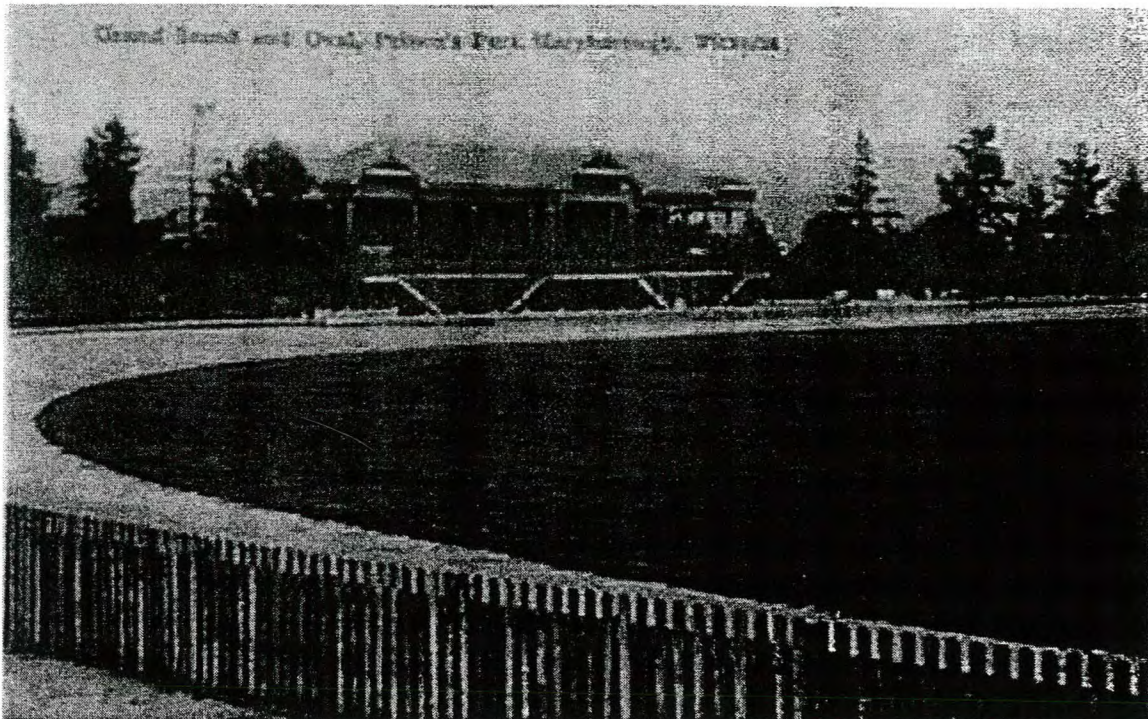


Figure 2.10 Grandstand and oval 1906. (Latrobe Library picture collection.)

In 1926, four gateposts were removed from the main entrance to Prince's Park, two of which were moved to the northern entrance. The short section of iron fence for the southern wicket gate was also removed. The cast iron posts were replaced with four Harcourt granite posts as World War I memorials. (Figure 3.1) A committee comprising the Red Cross, the Mayor and a sub-committee was set up to organize the project and invite designs to be submitted. The winning design was prepared by architects Carleton and Carleton for Hosken and Co. of Hawthorn, and came within the guidelines that the work should cost no more than £500 including 500 names in lead.<sup>18</sup> Bearing the names of 493 servicemen and five nursing sisters, the double gates are attached to the two main pillars while two pedestrian gates each side swing between a main pillar and an outside pillar. The honour gates were unveiled on 11 November 1928 by Brigadier General Blamey, Chief Commissioner of Police.<sup>19</sup>

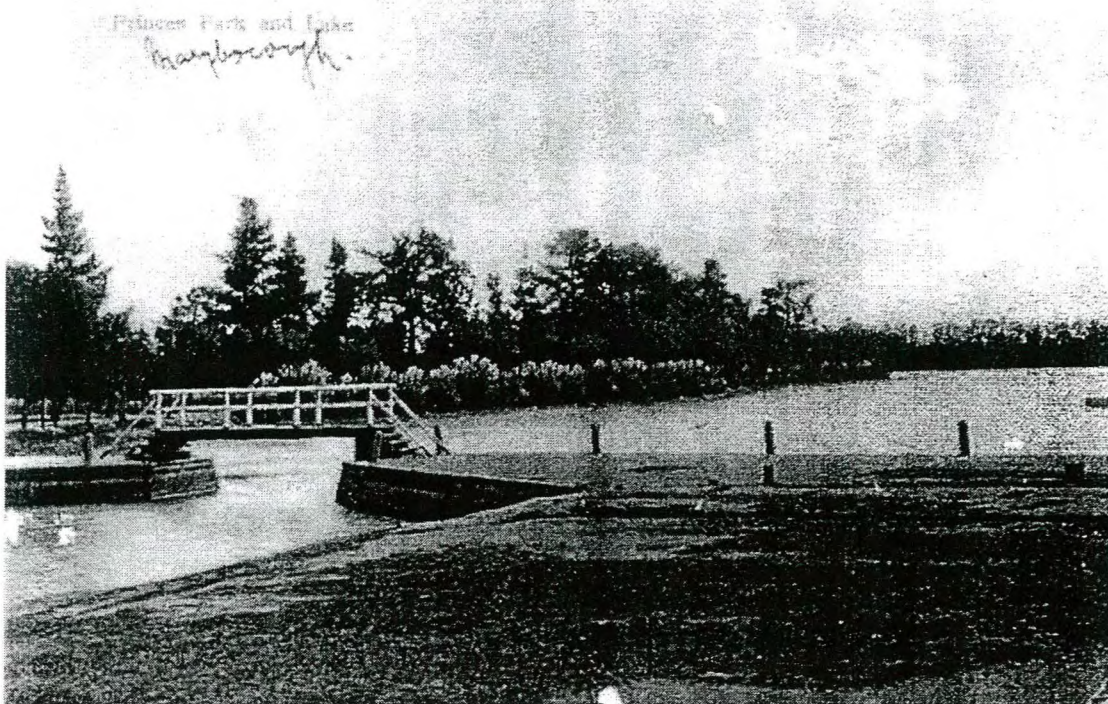


Figure 2.11 The docks and bridge at the southern end of L. Victoria. (Midlands Historical Society)



Figure 2.12 Prince's Park c.1928 aerial view showing fire brigade training track across the lawn in south-western corner. (Latrobe Library picture collection.)



Figure 2.13 Prince's Park c.1928 aerial view from the north-east. (Latrobe Library picture collection.)

Prior to 1928, and possibly as early as 1909, a fire brigade training track was laid down in the south-western corner of the reserve. The track had previously been in front of the grandstand. The new track was surrounded by lawn, was lined with an avenue of deciduous trees and had a tower at the finish line near the main drain. The end of the track appeared to connect with a diagonal path across the main entrance gardens. (Figure 2.12)

The c.1928 aerial view of Prince's Park (Figure 2.13) shows the relationship of the reserve to the town and the extent of development at that time. Lake Victoria is ringed with willows and an outer line of pines. There is a single small island at the northern end and a dock for pleasure boating at the southern end surrounded by pines. Pines lined the eastern boundary enclosing an area of parkland against the lake. The oval and grandstand on the western side of the lake are framed by trees both to the south (as seen in Figure 2.12) and northern ends. The elms around the southern end of the oval are difficult to see as they would have been recently planted.

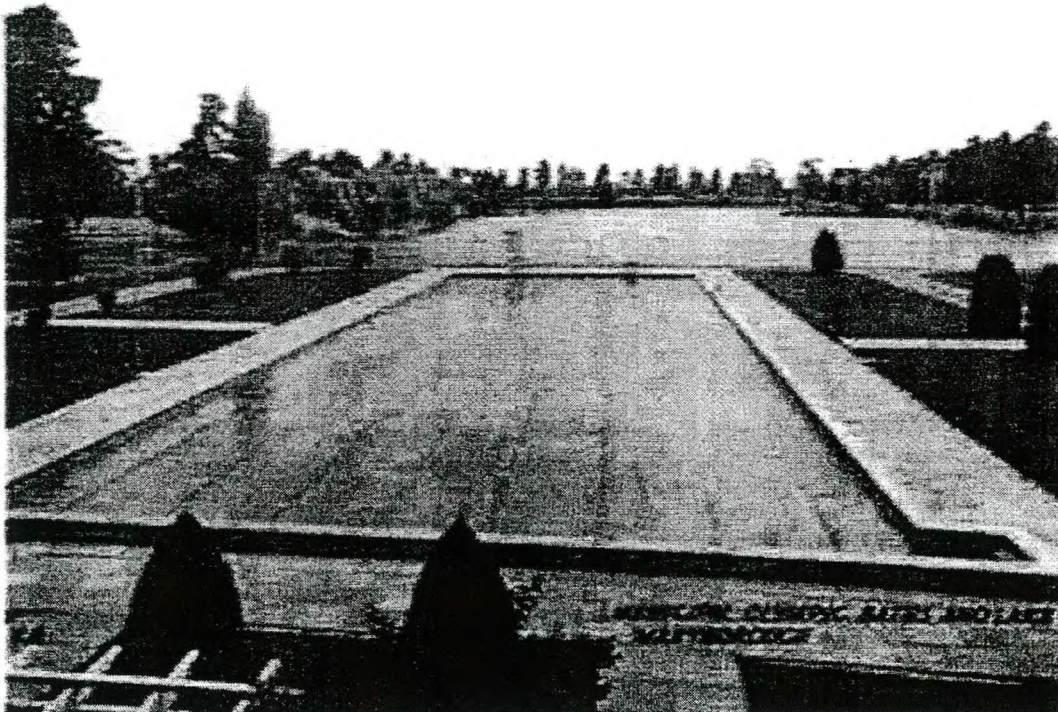
As the effects of the Great Depression hit home in 1928, life took a turn for the worse. With many either unemployed or finding their wages cut there was less money for both workers and business people. One



of the local sustenance programs was the replacement of the picket fence around Prince's Oval (*Figure 2.10*) by a fence with concrete posts, galvanized pipe rails and wire mesh. (Compare with *Figure 3.15*.)

The next event in the history of Prince's Park was the construction of lawn tennis courts in 1936, the work being completed in 1938. An annual tennis tournament had been held on the oval since 1926. A camping ground was opened at the northern end of the park in February 1938, a forerunner for the later development of the caravan park. Towards the end of the 1930s a 'beautification plan' was prepared for the reserve by Hugh Linaker, State Superintendent of Parks and Gardens<sup>20</sup>. No details of the plan are known, other than a recommendation to close Darling Street from Taylor Street to Holyrood Street, but it was possibly commissioned to allow for replacement of some of the early trees that would have been nearing the end of their useful lives, in addition to landscaping more recent developments. The fire brigade training track was relocated to its current position in 1939<sup>21</sup>; some of the pines on the western side of the lake had to be removed for the new track. New regulations for management of the reserve were prepared in 1938 to replace the 1895 regulations.

However, the most important event for Princes Park in the twentieth century was the construction of the Olympic Swimming Complex on the old dock site at the southern end of the lake (*Figure 2.11*). Building commenced in 1939 and was completed in 1940, being opened on 7 December 1940 by Sir Frank Beaurepaire, Lord Mayor of Melbourne and former Olympian. It is considered to be the most complete Art Deco-style swimming pool in Victoria and, with its surrounding vegetation, was included on the Victorian Heritage Register, H1319 in 1997 (*Figure 2.14*). An intermediate pool was added to the complex in 1973.



*Figure 2.14* Olympic pool overlooking Lake Victoria, early 1940s. (Latrobe Library picture collection.)



*Figure 2.15 1946 aerial photograph*

The 1946 aerial photograph (*Figure 2.15*) gives a clear picture of the state of development of Prince's Park at that time. Comparisons can also be made with the 1946 Maryborough Sewerage Authority plan included in Appendix C. Lake Victoria is the dominant element with its single island and line of willows around the margin. Up to three rows of pines echo the shape of the lake, from the south-eastern end around to the northern end of the oval. Large trees follow the shape of Prince's Oval at its northern end while the elm canopies at the southern end overhang the rotunda. The line of the main drain parallel to Park Road can be clearly seen. A row of elms to its eastern side continues north along Holyrood Street. On the western side of the drain there is little planting, excluding the canopy of the Grey Box and an avenue along Park Road. The narrower section further south between Wills and Nightingale Streets appears to have been more closely planted. The main entrance gardens are still present, with their pathways and planting beds, and a footbridge links to the old fire brigade track in the south-western corner. The lawn around the track seen in *Figure 2.12* has now been filled with trees. Some large pines survive against the Blackman's Lead arm of the drain while another stand of trees is growing further north to the west of the swimming pool complex. The landscaping within the pool complex is still immature. Many of the concrete pathways around the pools no longer exist.

The Ladies Cloak Room is south-west of the grandstand on the west of the main drain. This was a two-room cottage with verandah, demolished around 1977. On the northern side is a structure that is possibly a urinal, accessed via a footbridge over the drain. Further north of the grandstand, east of the drain, are two other small toilet blocks that presumably predate the existing Art-Deco block. The large area of planting north of the oval contains a shed used by the Maryborough Highland Society and the fire brigade track west of the lake. A row of pines passes west of the fire brigade track. A small playing field can be seen north-west of the lake.

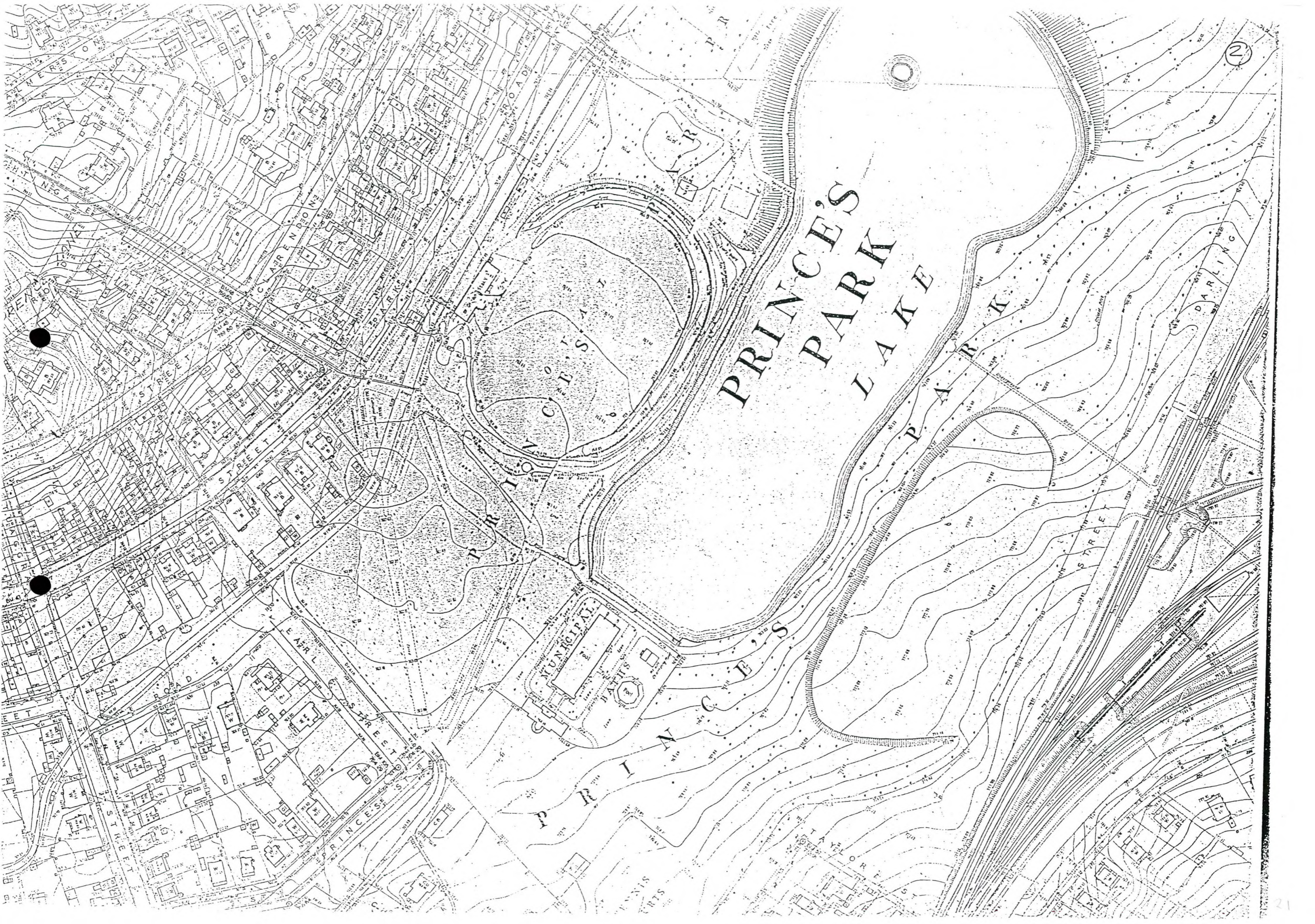
On the eastern side of the lake there is a large playing field that was later developed and named Jubilee Oval. To the north of this is a smaller playing area in the restricted area between the pines edging the lake and along the eastern boundary. There are some large, spreading tree canopies in the north-eastern corner that may have been remnant Eucalypts. The diagonal track across the larger oval may lead from the commercial centre to the railway workshops east of the park. The south-eastern corner of the reserve contains the tennis courts and open spaces crossed by tracks or roads. An area of regularly spaced trees either side of a path between the swimming pool and the oval may be the stand of Ironbarks (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*) that still remain in this area.

Additions to Prince's Park after 1946 include the development of Jubilee Oval, to commemorate the centenary of Victoria's 1851 separation from New South Wales, and the 1952/3 planting of Coronation Park to celebrate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. Picnic and barbeque facilities have been added to this area. The caravan park at the northern end of the lake would have been opened in the 1950s. Toilet blocks and an administration building have been erected. The area between the main drain and the fire brigade track has been developed as an active sports ground following the removal of a number of trees. A toilet block and changing rooms were built over the main drain in 1977 to serve the picnic area and the adjacent sports fields. The Art Deco toilet block north of the grandstand would have been constructed in the early 1950s. The female toilet block and the covered section of the main drain at the rear of the grandstand are more recent additions. The fire brigade had their judges box rebuilt in 1963/4 on the eastern side of the training track. Football clubrooms were added to the southern end of the grandstand in 1979. A basketball court was constructed north-east of the main oval adjacent to the cricket nets. The tennis courts have been extended to the north. The playground on the eastern side of the lake, together with associated picnic facilities and a stream, was constructed to commemorate Australia's Bicentenary. The soil mounds were placed on the site of a disused soccer pitch. The lake was drained for cleaning in 1982 and the silt was used to enlarge the existing island and to construct two additional islands. It was refilled and stocked with four species of fish.

As with all Victorian country towns, sporting activities played a large part in the life of its inhabitants. Today Prince's Park remains the focus of Maryborough's passive and active recreation as can be seen by

the fact it has been home to many sports such as cricket, football, cycling, hockey, tennis, swimming, athletics, rowing, power boating and a rifle club. In addition to active recreation, it is also a pleasant location for passive recreation such as picnics, barbeques, and walking. The park has hosted the Maryborough Highland Gathering since 1859 and has provided a venue for three fire brigade training tracks and associated competitions. Non-sporting community celebrations have also been held in the park since the marriage of the Prince of Wales in 1863 such as Jubilee and Centenary events, band concerts and Christmas carols. More recent events have included the staging of the RACV Energy Breakthrough and gold-panning competitions.

*Figure 2.16A 1946 Sewerage Authority Plan (north)*



# PRINCE'S PARK

## L A K E

P R I N C E ' S  
P A R K

MUNICIPAL  
BATHS

STREET

DARLING

2

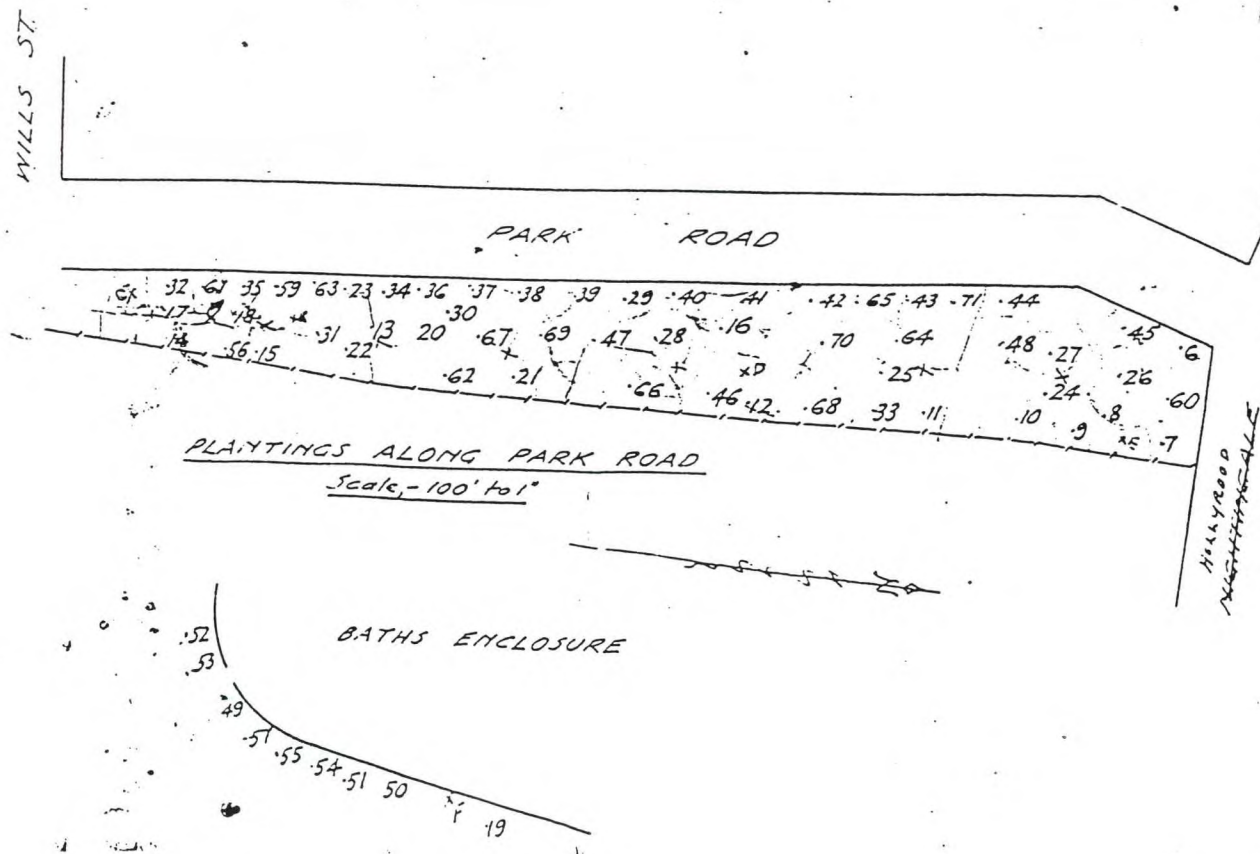
*Figure 2.16B 1946 Sewerage Authority Plan (south)*





*Figure 2.17 1953 Coronation Park Planting*

Ref. No.	Description	Body	Representative	Ref. No.	Description	Body	Representative
2				41	Cornus serotina	Masonic Lodge	J. Riten
3				42	Quercus macrocarpa	Maryborough	R. Stepan
4				43	Populus Parkmanii	Knitting Club	Miss R. Lucknell
5				44	Crataegus Smithii	Teachers Club	A. Nicholson
6	Claret Ash	Maryborough Boy Scouts	J. Ford	45	Hamamelis virginica variegata	Red Cross	Miss M. Gibbs
7	Melicope stylisoides	Boys Scouts	C. Hill	46	Vernonia bicolor	Hockey & Ball Assn.	Miss T. Tranter
8	Cornus rugosa	M.A.S.A.	Miss G. Parsons	47	Ulmus glaberrimus	G.O.F. Club	R. A. Hill
9	Prunus pennsylvanica	Arts Club	J. Moran	48	Desert Ash	Hospital Carnival Committee	C. Richard
10	Prunus pennsylvanica	Arts Society	J. Moran	49	Quercus palustris	Borough	C. J. Hedger
11	Prunus pennsylvanica	Lawn Tennis Club	R. Kegan	50	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
12	Prunus pennsylvanica	Methodist Circuit	Rev. J. Mankiewa	51	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
13	Prunus pennsylvanica			52	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
14	Prunus pennsylvanica			53	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
15	Prunus pennsylvanica			54	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
16	Prunus pennsylvanica			55	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
17	Prunus pennsylvanica			56	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
18	Prunus pennsylvanica			57	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
19	Prunus pennsylvanica			58	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
20	Prunus pennsylvanica			59	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
21	Prunus pennsylvanica			60	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
22	Prunus pennsylvanica			61	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
23	Prunus pennsylvanica			62	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
24	Prunus pennsylvanica			63	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
25	Prunus pennsylvanica			64	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
26	Prunus pennsylvanica			65	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
27	Prunus pennsylvanica			66	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
28	Prunus pennsylvanica			67	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
29	Prunus pennsylvanica			68	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
30	Prunus pennsylvanica			69	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
31	Prunus pennsylvanica			70	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
32	Prunus pennsylvanica			71	Prunus pennsylvanica		C. J. Hedger
33	Prunus pennsylvanica						
34	Prunus pennsylvanica						
35	Prunus pennsylvanica						
36	Prunus pennsylvanica						
37	Prunus pennsylvanica						
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39	Prunus pennsylvanica						
40	Prunus pennsylvanica						



BOROUGH OF MARYBOROUGH  
 RECORD OF PLANTING TO COMMEMORATE  
 THE CORONATION OF ELIZABETH II, ON 2-6-1953.

31 1/2 Circle Number

## 3.0 PHYSICAL SURVEY

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### 3.1 General Description

Maryborough is centrally located on the northern slopes of the Great Dividing Range in the Central Highlands Region of Victoria. It lies 160 kilometres from Melbourne and is 240 metres above sea level.

The public recreation reserve is a flat, low-lying site of approximately 25.6 hectares (64 acres) bounded by Park Road, Holyrood Street, Burns Street and Earl Street. The 7 hectare Lake Victoria forms the central feature and is surrounded by parkland serving a mix of active and passive recreation. The main drain isolates a portion of the reserve from Park Road on the west and forms a physical boundary in the south-western corner. The formal entry gates, the timber ticket office, the bridge over the main drain, the grandstand and band rotunda, all in a setting of mature trees, provide a late Victorian / early Edwardian character to this section of the reserve. There are also remnants of the early plantings of pines and willows around the park boundaries and the lake perimeter.

Later stages of development are represented by the Olympic Swimming Pool complex, Jubilee Oval, the tennis courts, the caravan park, Coronation Park plantation and the more recent adventure playground / barbeque area on the eastern side of Lake Victoria. Refer to *Figure 1.2 1989 Aerial Photograph*.

Facilities in Prince's Park are listed below:

- Prince's Oval and grandstand / club rooms, used for football, cricket, athletics, Highland Gathering, etc.
- Entrance gardens and ticket box
- Band rotunda
- Lawn area south of rotunda
- Public toilets
- Jubilee Oval and pavilion / club rooms for football, cricket
- Swimming pool complex
- Tennis courts and club rooms
- Hockey ground and changing rooms
- Netball court
- Cricket nets (2)
- Fire brigade training track and marshall track
- Lake Victoria
- Walking track around Lake Victoria
- Barbeque facilities and play equipment in Coronation Park
- Adventure playground and barbeque facilities, gold panning stream, toilet block and associated parking area
- Caravan park.

### 3.2 Entrance Gates and Fence

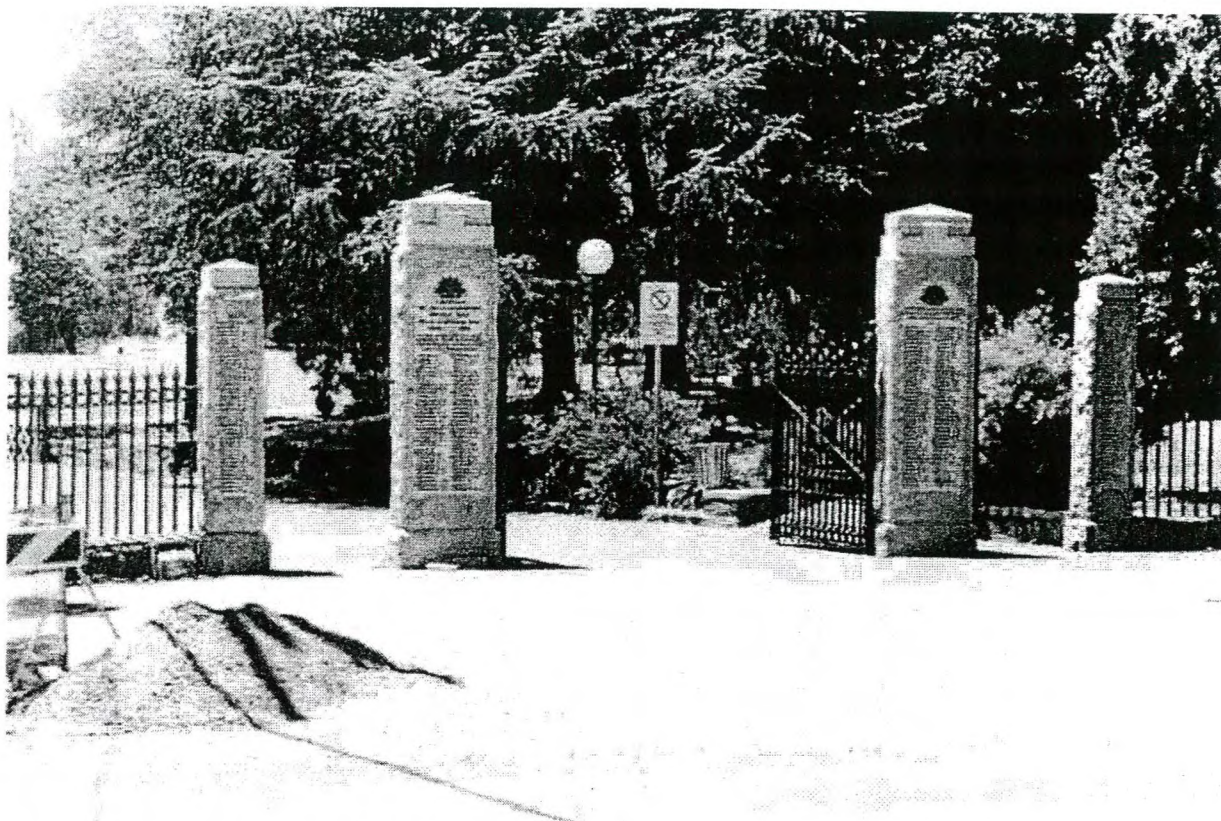
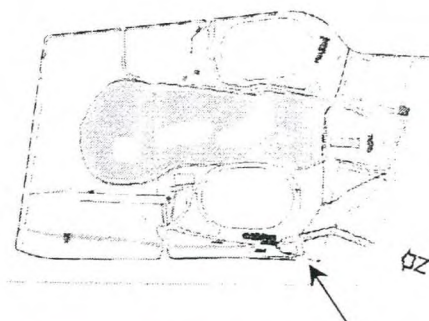


Figure 3.1 Entrance with World War I memorial gate posts

#### Brief History

The reserve was originally enclosed by a timber picket fence in 1857 to exclude wandering stock. The fence was extended when the area of the reserve was increased to the north, east and south. In 1863 it was described as a six foot high "close paling" fence.<sup>22</sup>

The c.1888 lithograph showed the perimeter fence plus an elaborate set of gates opposite Nightingale Street. The cast iron fence and entry gates were erected in 1885 after council had called for tenders. Five tenders were received ranging from £100 to £215, the lowest being submitted by J McKay of Ballarat. Robinson & Cowley from Maryborough submitted a price of £118 but they were unsuccessful. The council accepted the McKay tender on the condition that the gates and fencing would be "constructed similar to those at Exhibition Building Melbourne both as to size and weight of iron"<sup>23</sup>. (Refer to Figure 3.2a).

The four gateposts were all the same height and were similar in appearance to the corner posts. An iron rod connected the balls of the two central gateposts and formed a simple archway. The pedestrian gates were hung off the outside posts but did not take up the whole of the width between posts; a short section of fence on a bluestone plinth fixed to the main posts made up the difference. The southern pedestrian gate acted as a wicket gate with a short L-shaped section of fence at the rear to exclude stock. (Refer to *Figure 2.2*) The entry was modified in 1926 when the stone World War I memorials replaced the cast iron gateposts. The original two central posts were moved to the northern entrance opposite Wills Street, known as "Tweeddale Gates". Maintenance was carried out on the stone piers in 1991 and the gates were repaired and repainted in 1999. (Refer Bick 1992.)

### **Description:**

(a) Main entrance. Two cast iron vehicle gates and two cast iron pedestrian gates are hung from grey Harcourt granite posts bearing a lead-lettered list of names of local World War I participants. The names appear on both the eastern and western sides. The gates are set back from Park Road and are connected to elaborate cast iron posts at the corners of the main fence by two curved fence panels. The corner posts carry the manufacturer's name, "J McKay & Co., Ballarat". The fence panels consist of cast iron palisades on a bluestone plinth, supported at intervals by curved stay rods on plinths at right angles to the fence. The southern section of fence extends to the Ticket office while the shorter northern section, approximately 9 metres long, abuts a low chain wire mesh and barbed wire fence. The fence panels are identical to the remaining section of fence in the north-western corner of the Carlton Gardens (*Figure 3.2a*). The gates are also similar to the Carlton originals, differing only in that the scrollwork near the hinge sides is slightly less ornate. These gates are more elaborate than the cemetery gates but less elaborate than many other examples in Victoria. It was common practice in the late nineteenth century to provide ornate entrance gates to public building forecourts, public gardens, private mansions and cemeteries. Outstanding examples include Government House, the Old Mint, Werribee Park, Nareeb Gate at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Williamstown and Castlemaine Botanic Gardens and the Ballarat cemetery.

(b) Northern entrance. Two of the four original cast iron gateposts are located on each side of a bridge over the main drain; the location of the other two posts is unknown (*Figure 3.3*). The original bridge has been replaced by a concrete structure. A decorative cast iron post of unknown purpose remains on the north - western corner of the bridge. Chain wire mesh fences connect to the rear of the cast iron posts. The posts are isolated without adjacent cast iron fence panels and are out of scale with the wide vehicle entrance. The appearance of this entrance has been further downgraded by the removal of an adjacent ticket office and the bridge balustrades.

### **Significance**

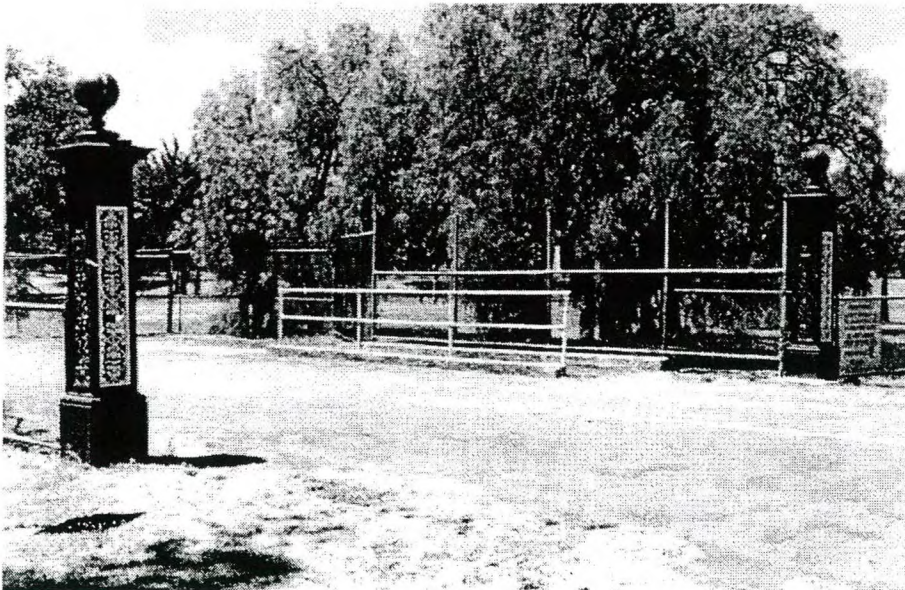
The main entrance gates and iron palisade fencing provide a ceremonial approach to Prince's Park and are of primary significance for their aesthetic and historic qualities and their social importance as a memorial. These are fine examples of late nineteenth century ironwork and are of additional value for their similarity to the gates and fencing that has almost disappeared from the Exhibition Buildings. The modification for a war memorial has added to historical and social significance but has diminished the original grandeur. The adjacent chain wire mesh fencing has no significance. The northern entry gateposts, while being part of the early fabric, have lost significance through relocation and isolation and are only of contributory significance.



*Figure 3.2 Cast iron post to the northern side of the main entrance*



*Figure 3.2a Cast iron fence and gates, north western corner of Carlton Gardens, Melbourne.*



*Figure 3.3 Northern gate posts or "Tweedale Gates". The bridge balustrades are not original. The change in direction of the fence at the rear indicates the location of a former ticket office.*

### 3.3 Timber Ticket Office

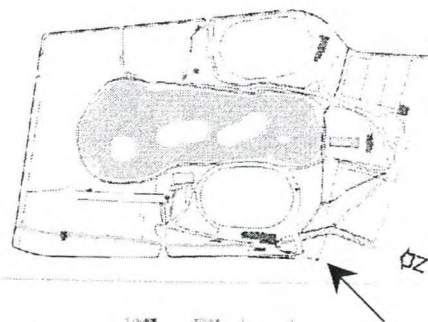


Figure 3.4 View of ticket office from north east.

#### Brief History

The timber ticket office was constructed in 1908 for £24 by Messrs Phelan & Sons. A panel at the southern end of the cast iron fence was removed to accommodate the building adjacent to the Park Road footpath. The ticket office was (and still is) used for ticket sales to permit access to events such as the annual Highland Gathering where tickets were collected at the entrance gates. The Highland Society used to sell the rights to collect tickets to the highest bidder.<sup>24</sup> A gravel pathway originally provided access to the rear door on the eastern side.

#### Description

Refer to Bick 1992. A rectangular plan building of timber stud wall construction lined with weatherboards. The gambrel-shaped roof is clad with corrugated iron, has timber louvres to each end and finials to the ridge. The bottom six weatherboards are notched to give the effect of shingles. Four ticket sales windows face the street. Note that the floor is below footpath level and that the building rests



on the bluestone plinth of the now-removed cast iron fence panel. The building is in poor condition. It is the only known building of its type remaining in Victoria.

**Significance**

This is a rare surviving example of an early twentieth century timber ticket office. It is of primary significance for its aesthetic, historical and social values.

### 3.4 Entrance Garden

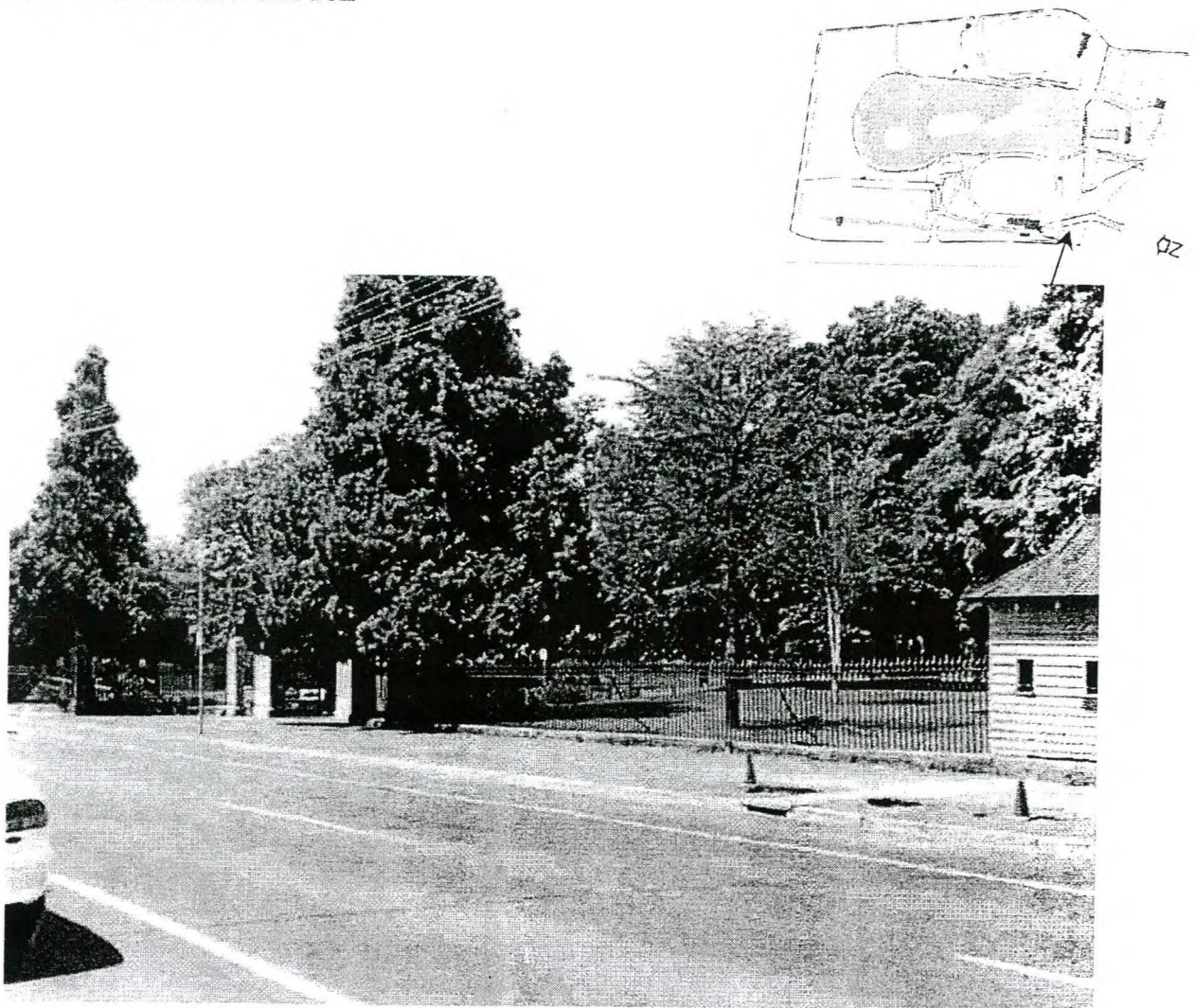


Figure 3.5 Entrance Garden

#### Brief History

The earliest recorded planting to improve the appearance of the public recreation reserve had been carried out by 1863 when the council spent £50 on trees in wire guards.<sup>25</sup> Two oaks were planted to commemorate the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales on 19 May 1863<sup>26</sup>. The oaks were still in existence in 1906 when Council debated the placement of commemorative signs<sup>27</sup>, but have since been removed. A further 62 trees selected by Clement Hodgkinson, Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands & Survey, were dispatched from Melbourne and planted in 1869<sup>28</sup>. (Refer to copy of the list in Appendix C.) The planting locations of the trees is unknown, and none have survived, although it is reasonable to expect much of the planting would have been around the boundary of the reserve and near the main entrance.

In 1881 the main drain was constructed through Prince's Park, passing close to the entrance. A bridge would have been constructed at this time and is possibly the bridge seen in *Figure 2.5*.

The cast iron entrance gates and fencing were constructed in 1884. Mr Ernst Swansson became curator of the borough in 1906, replacing Mr H Murray. The development of the entrance garden appears to date

from this time (*Figure 2.6, 2.9*). Gravel pathways ran parallel to Park Street forming garden beds against the rear of the cast iron fence. A diagonal pathway connected the gates with a pedestrian bridge over the main drain in the south-eastern corner. The area between pathways was planted with trees and shrubs by 1908. Garden beds had also been established around 1910 on the eastern side of the main drain.<sup>29</sup> A Ladies Retiring Room (also known as the Ladies Cloak Room) was constructed in 1911<sup>30</sup> and is the structure seen on the right hand side of *Figure 2.9*. Mr W H Elsey became curator in 1913. By 1926, the trees each side of the entrance had assumed reasonable proportions, and the pines had been removed from the southern fence. (Refer c.1926 aerial photograph.)

## Description

The entry gardens have been considerably modified by the removal of paths, the construction of a ramp to the rear of the grandstand / football club rooms, the raising of the soil level behind bluestone retaining walls and the installation of lawns to replace shrub planting. The Ladies Cloak Room and the timber pedestrian bridge have been removed, possibly after 1974, together with the garden bed south-east of the main bridge. A section of garden edging, consisting of upright stones, remains from the c.1910 construction north-east of the main bridge. Bluestone retaining walls to each side of the entrance path are of recent construction and have replaced earlier stone walls as seen in *Figures 2.6 & 2.8*. The garden contains few shrubs, but over 40 species of trees, including fifteen species of conifer. The oldest tree is the Illawarra Flame Tree planted c.1910 (*Brachychiton acerifolius*) and recorded by the National Trust (*Figure 3.7*). Also notable are the English Yew (*Taxus baccata*) and Jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*) (Refer to Bick 1992 for description). The majority of the trees are less than 60 years old.

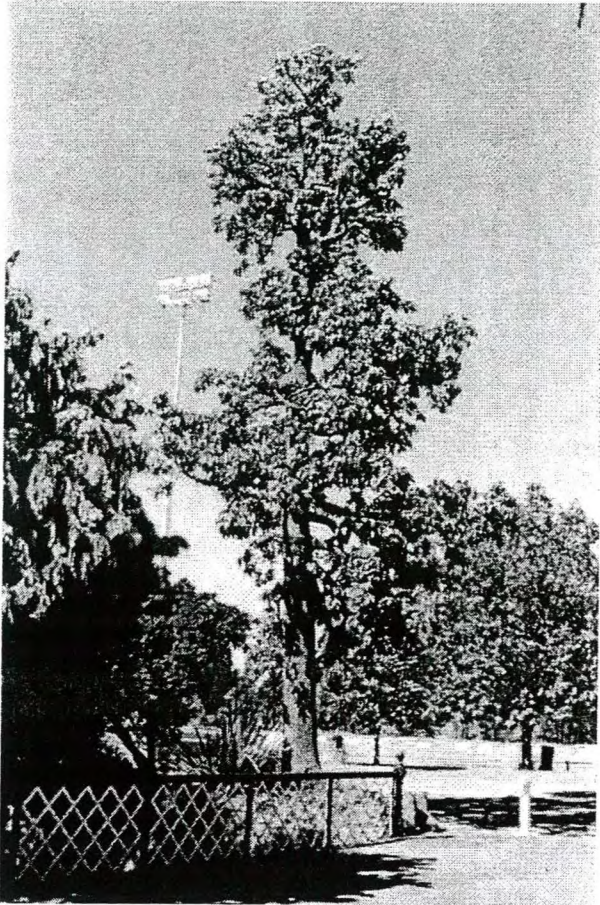


*Figure 3.6* Entrance garden view from south. Lawn has replaced pathways and garden beds.

## Significance

The entrance garden has importance as a formal setting for the late nineteenth / early twentieth century structures, including the cast iron fence and memorial gates, the Ticket office and the bridge over the main drain. The Illawarra Flame Tree has scientific significance, and is of primary significance to the

park, yet the general planting is a confusing mix of species. The garden has been considerably modified since 1946 through the loss of pathways, planting beds and pedestrian bridge, the replacement of retaining walls and the intrusion of the ramp to the football clubrooms. It is therefore only rated as having contributory significance.



*Figure 3.7 Illawarra Flame Tree recorded by the National Trust.*

### 3.5 Main Drain & Blackman's Lead Arm

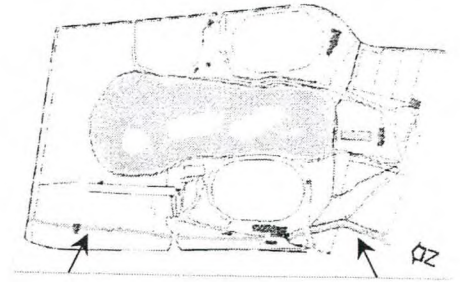


Figure 3.8 Main Drain south of main entry bridge

#### Brief History

The western section of the drain parallel to Park Road was constructed in 1881 by Thomas Tout. This extended from the southern boundary of the reserve to the northern end at what was then Campbell Street (now the Wills Street entrance or "Tweedale's Gates"). Some of the preparatory excavation was carried out with prison labour. The drain was 21 feet (6.4m) wide. It had a bluestone picher base with central brick channel and timber sidewalls. Henry Hunt constructed the Blackman's Lead arm in 1885 (the section along Earl Street to "Hubble's Gates"), the diversion of the drain or Four Mile Creek from its original course being necessary to allow for the construction of Lake Victoria. Thomas Tout completed the northern section of the main drain to the extended park boundary (now Holyrood Street) in 1886. This section was constructed with rubble walling. Frances Worsley reconstructed the timber sidewalls of the original section with stone rubble in 1903. The drain in Prince's Park was further widened in 1908 although the location of this work is unknown; the Blackman's Lead section is a possibility where the brick channel is off centre<sup>31</sup> (Figure 3.9). A post and rail fence provided a protective barrier to the eastern side of the drain from the main bridge to the northern end of the grandstand. This fence was partly removed before 1910 for the construction of a garden bed.

## **Description**

The drains in Prince's Park appear to have changed little since their completion, although the main drain has been built over outside the southern boundary. It has also been built over at the rear of the grandstand and is bridged by the 1977 sports pavilion / toilet block. Two other pedestrian bridges have been added, one to the north end of the grandstand and a second with a decorative balustrade at the junction of the main drain and the Blackman's Lead arm. This latter bridge serves a pedestrian entry at the south western corner of the reserve leading from the town centre.

The junction between the different construction contracts is marked by a change in the base lining material, from bluestone to sandstone on the north side of the Wills Street entry and back to sandstone for the Blackman's Lead arm. The drain profile changes slightly in the Blackman's Lead section where the central brick channel is off-centre. Parts of the base stonework and brick channel have been covered with cement render to stabilize the surface. The sidewalls have been increased in height adjacent to the entrance gardens where several courses of random-sized bluestone pitchers or rubble have been added. Similarly, several courses of bluestone have been added to the eastern bank where the timber bridge was removed. The abutments beneath the new pedestrian bridge at the Blackman's Lead junction have been constructed with bluestone, while those beneath the pedestrian bridge to the rear of the grandstand are off-form concrete.

The drain walls and channels are generally in fair to good condition although floods have caused some erosion and dislodgement of stone. A major threat to the drain is the deterioration caused by tree roots especially elm suckers, weeds and tree seedlings.

A stone-lined drain also passes through the Phillips Gardens in Maryborough. Such drains were constructed in other towns throughout the gold region to dispose of stormwater and to repair damage done to natural drainage lines by mining. The best example is the stone-lined Bendigo Creek where it passes through Rosalind Park, Bendigo, and is spanned by three ornate bridges dating from 1882. Ballarat also has some good examples. The lined channels in St Arnaud's Queen Mary Gardens were constructed later during the depression.

## **Significance**

The drains are of historic importance as the earliest surviving constructions in Prince's Park. They form a major landscape element and are of primary significance.



*Figure 3.9 Blackman's Lead arm of drain near corner of Alma Street & Earl Street.*

### 3.6 Main Entry Bridge

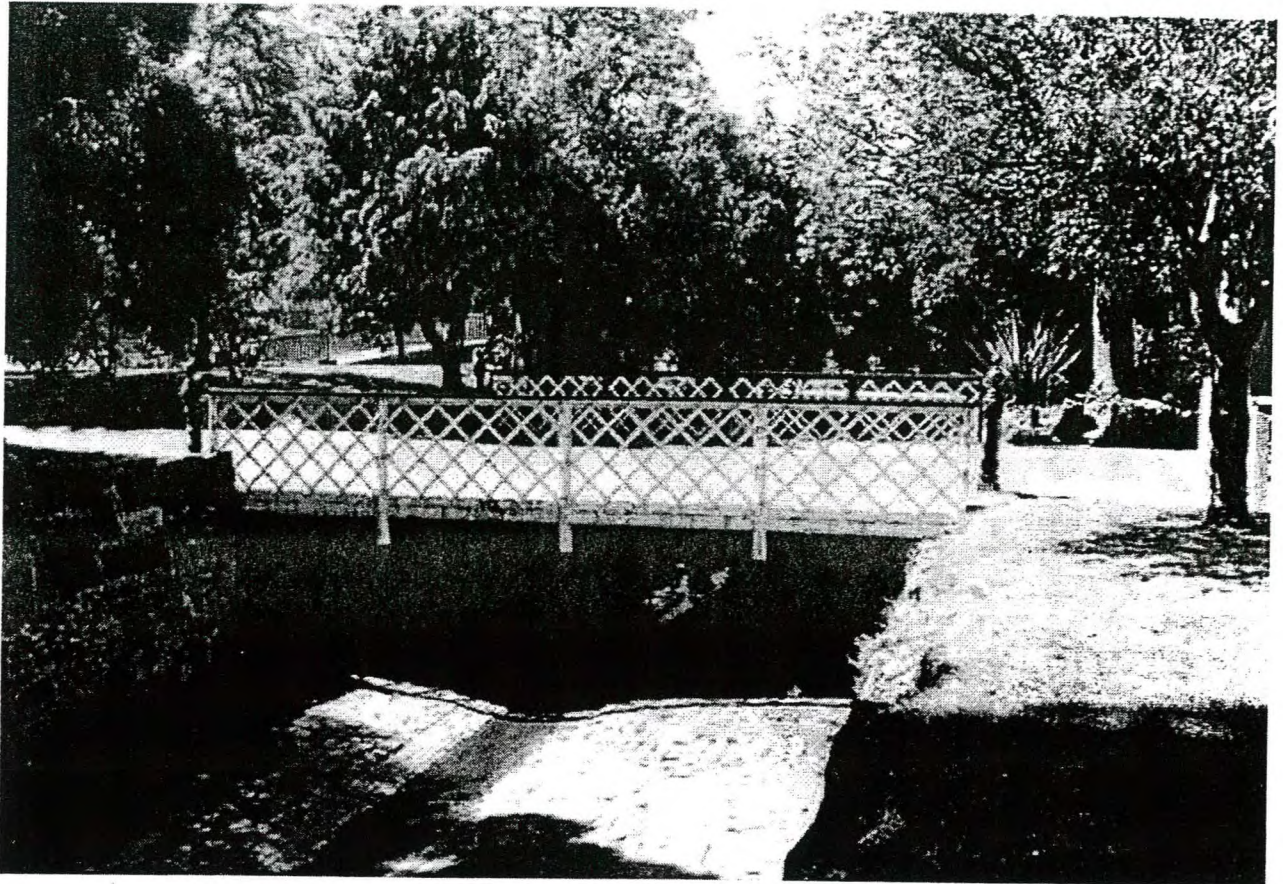
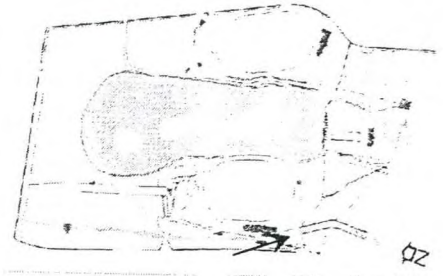


Figure 3.10 View of the bridge over the main drain from the south-east.

#### Brief History

Two bridges were built in conjunction with the construction of the main drain in 1881. These were located opposite Nightingale Street and Campbell Street (now Wills Street). The bridge seen in *Figure 2.5* may have been the original structure opposite the main entrance but was replaced by the present bridge with its iron lattice balustrades in 1909. The new bridge was constructed by Jenkins Brothers for £247 10s 0d.

#### Description

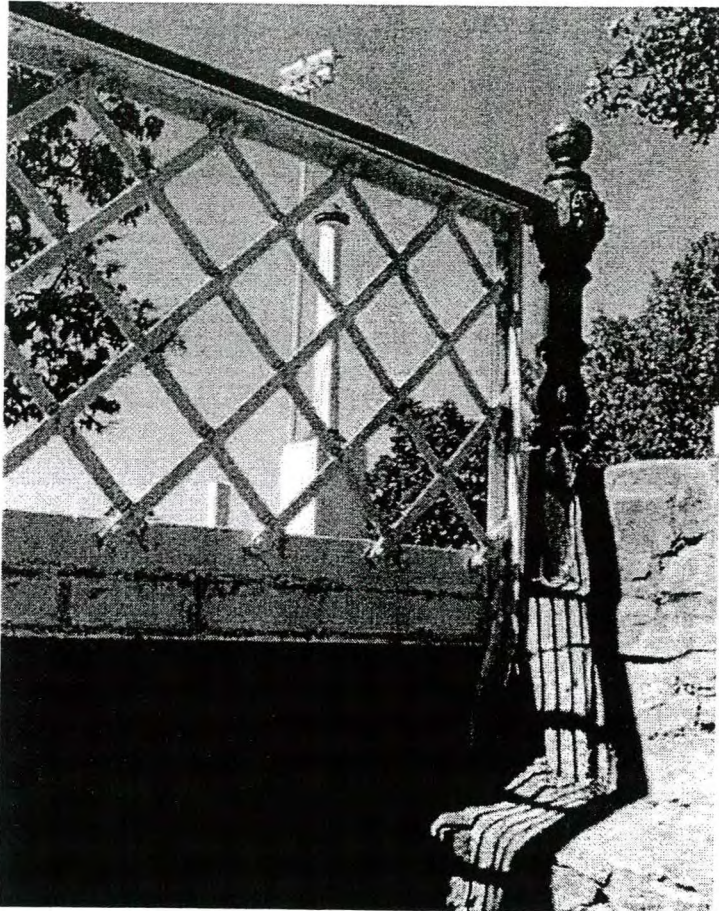
The bridge is approximately 9 metres wide with identical balustrades to each side spanning the main drain. The balustrade has a decorative cast iron post at each end attached to a horizontal handrail. Modern rolled hollow steel sections have replaced both handrails. Four panels of diagonal metal straps



are fixed to angle iron frames below the handrail. The asphalt road surface has been laid over concrete poured between iron I-beams. The I-beams are supported by five 18 inch x 6 inch (450mm x 150mm) iron girders spanning between bluestone abutments. The girders were manufactured by Dorman Long & Co. Ltd. of Middlesborough, England. A light standard, on a tall square concrete base occupies the centre of the eastern side of the bridge, and is flanked by timber posts and a removable bollard. The pole is damaged at the top. It appears to date from the 1920s and was not part of the original installation. The fabric of the bridge appears to be intact, with the exception of the handrails.

### **Significance**

The bridge has historical importance as an early twentieth century ironwork structure. Together with the memorial entrance gates, it constitutes part of the formal access to Princes Oval and is of primary significance to the park.



*Figure 3.11* Detail of south-east bridge abutment. The light standard can be seen through the balustrade.

### 3.7 Grandstand

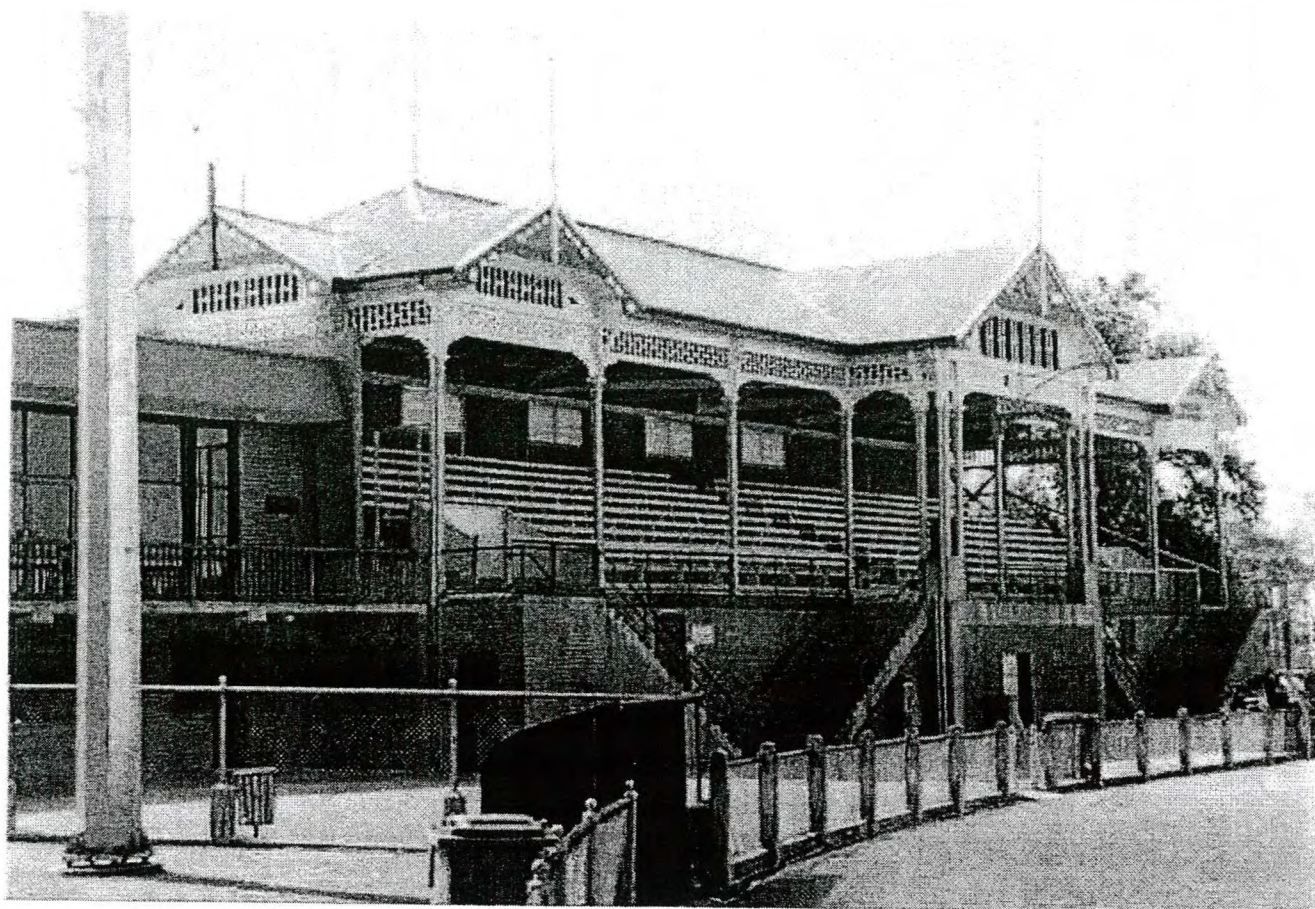
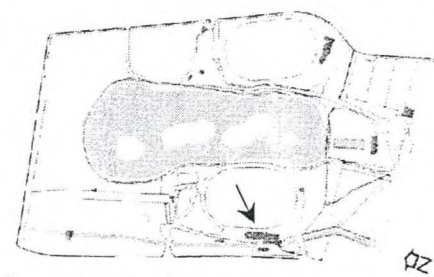


Figure 3.12 Grandstand - view from south-east

#### Brief History

The original grandstand was a pavilion relocated from the Market Square in the mid-1860s, possibly before the 1864 cricket match against an English XI (Refer Figure 2.3). This building eventually proved unsuitable and a new grandstand was constructed in 1895 by W J Dingle for £1,300<sup>32</sup>. Other prominent buildings constructed in Maryborough by WJ Dingle included the nurses' quarters for the hospital (1902), the Brigidine convent in Kars Street (1903) and the Bull & Mouth Hotel in High Street (1904)<sup>33</sup>. The grandstand was designed by Thomas Watts & Sons of Melbourne; one of Victoria's most important nineteenth century architectural firms. Six buildings designed by the firm are on the Victorian Heritage Register. Thomas Watts also designed a new grandstand for Victoria Park, Collingwood in 1909 that was similar in appearance to his Maryborough design (Refer to Figure 4.1). The use of timber decoration for the eaves, gables and balustrades in lieu of cast iron was unusual at this time. A small structure was added to the rear corner of the northern end before 1946 and was used by the Maryborough

Highland Society. The roof was damaged by a storm in the 1960s and was replaced. The football clubrooms and rear access ramp were added to the southern end in 1979.

The Council minute books state that the grandstand was regularly used for viewing sporting events as well as being a vantage point for Agricultural Society show events, the annual Highland Gathering, charity carnivals and fire brigade demonstrations.

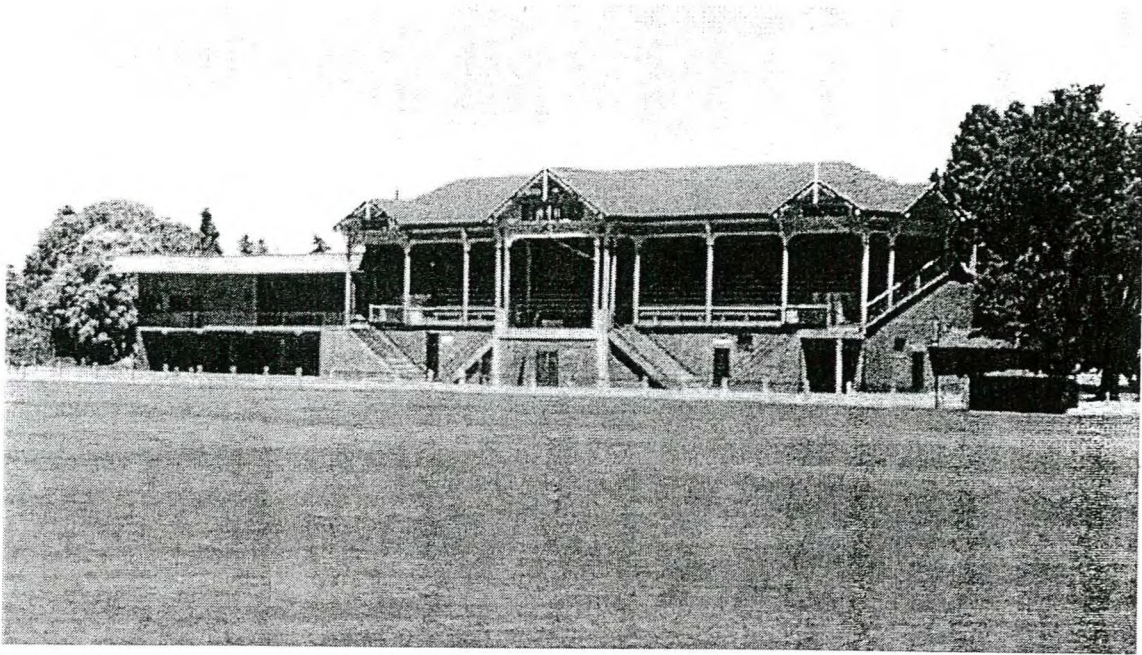
## **Description**

The grandstand is a timber framed building with corrugated iron roof and ornate timber decoration to the eaves and gables. The stepped seating area is raised over a brick base that housed the original change rooms and storage at ground level. Comparisons can be made between *Figure 3.12* and *Figure 2.4* to determine the extent of changes that have been made. Five of the original seven flagpoles have been retained as well as the cast iron ridge capping; timber finials have replaced the flagpoles at the northern and southern ends. The ornate timber balustrades to the front and sides of the grandstand, and to the four access stairs, have been replaced with steel rails and wire mesh. The timber access stairs, and the central columns up to the seating level, have been replaced with concrete, with the two end stairs being supported on brickwork walls. The store room below the central bay has been reconstructed in brickwork and enclosed in line with the face of the building. Timber louvres above the rear of the seating in the western wall have been replaced with brickwork. The 1979 brick clubrooms built against the southern end and part of the rear are unfortunately out of character with the original structure. The siting of the grandstand in relation to the oval is unusual; it is not located opposite the centre point of the oval but is offset approximately 15metres to the south. This siting suggests that at some point in time the oval was increased in size. The section of fence with concrete posts in front of the grandstand is a remnant of the 1930s replacement of the original picket fence.

The timber roof structure, eaves and gable decorations and upper section of the columns are original features and all appear to be in good condition. It is doubtful whether the paint colours reflect the original colour scheme. Bick<sup>34</sup> states that the use and nature of the timber decoration in 1895 was very innovative and at the forefront of building design and ornamentation, being derived from the Stick style from the United States. Cast iron decoration was commonly used up until the early 1900s, for example, as in the Queen Elizabeth Oval Grandstand at Bendigo (1903). The grandstand is one of only a few nineteenth century grandstands remaining in Victoria. The only two older examples in their original location are at Tarnagulla (1882) and Fitzroy (1888)<sup>35</sup>.

## **Significance**

The grandstand is of architectural significance for the use and nature of its timber decoration, as such ornamentation was uncommon before the early 1900s. The grandstand is the only remaining example of a recreation facility designed by the important architectural firm, Thomas Watts & Sons, whose later grandstand at Victoria Park, Collingwood (1908), was demolished in 1966. The extensive modifications to the base of the building, the replacements of balustrades and the clubroom additions have compromised the aesthetic appeal, although the upper structure and roofing are still basically intact. The grandstand has historic and social importance for its long association with the public recreation reserve and as the prime viewing location for the events held on the oval. It is also historically significant as one of the few remaining nineteenth century Victorian grandstands. It is of primary significance to Prince's Park. The 1979 football clubrooms have no significance and are visually intrusive.



*Figure 3.13 Grandstand view from north-east.*

### 3.8 Prince's Oval

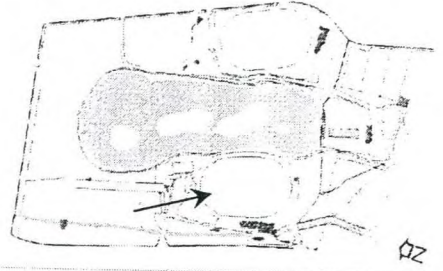


Figure 3.14 Oval - view from north-east of 139<sup>th</sup> Highland Gathering, 2 January 2000.

#### Brief History

The use of the area for recreation began in 1857 when the Maryborough Cricket Club applied for the ground to be reserved for "public amusement". Cricket matches have been held since that time with notable games against English Elevens in 1864 and 1884. The Maryborough Highland Society first held its annual gathering of highland games and associated events in the reserve on New Year's Day, 1859. The annual gatherings have been held every year since except during the second World War. The cricket ground has been the venue for a variety of uses, including a parade ground for volunteer militia (in 1860 and again in 1887), a ceremony to mark the wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales in 1863, brass band parades, the 1883 German Association Boxing Day sports meeting, charity carnivals plus the Agricultural & Horticultural Society Show from 1891 to 1909. Other sports that used the oval were Australian Rules football from 1872 and cycling from 1884. Cycling races were first held on the grass oval within rope barriers.<sup>36</sup> The c.1887 lithograph (*Figure 2.1*) showed that the oval shape had been established but that it did not appear to be fenced. The oval was surrounded by a ring of pines with the grandstand located in the centre of the western side. A banked asphalt cycling track of 360 yards perimeter and 6 yards wide was proposed in 1895 and constructed in 1897<sup>37</sup>, presumably to these dimensions. The oval surface was cultivated and sown with grass in 1900 and again resurfaced in 1906.

Gas lighting was added to the oval in 1909<sup>38</sup>. An elaborate picket fence enclosure was constructed in front of the grandstand and a simpler picket fence was added to the rest of the perimeter before 1909. *Figure 2.10* shows the banked cycling track located inside the picket fence. Events held at the oval in the 1920s included goat cart races; one of the better performing goats was named "Lord Kitchener".<sup>39</sup> The cycling track had been removed before 1926, possibly to allow the oval to be increased in size. (Refer to *Figure 2.13*, c.1928 aerial photograph.) The asphalt embankment later constructed on the outside of the fence was for spectator viewing.<sup>40</sup> The timber picket fence was replaced by a galvanised pipe and wire mesh fence with concrete posts; this was a sustenance project during the 1920s/30s depression.<sup>41</sup> A scoreboard was erected sometime before 1946. The concrete fence posts have been recently replaced by galvanised posts capped with metal balls and fixed with pop-rivets, except for the section in front of the grandstand.

Prisoners planted pine trees around the oval in the 1880s<sup>42</sup>, and these were still in place by 1905 (Refer to *Figure 2.1*). The pines were removed from the eastern lake embankment and only willows remained by 1928. A row of 13 trees, including elms, replaced pines at the southern end by 1928, extending from the rotunda to the grandstand, as seen in the c.1928 aerial photograph, *Figure 2.13*). Other elms may have been planted immediately north of the grandstand, but some of the conifers were still retained. Eleven trees still remained adjacent to the northern end of the oval by 1946 (Refer to 1946 aerial photograph, *Figure 2.15*). A 'beautification plan' was prepared for Prince's Park in the late 1930s by Hugh Linaker, State Superintendent of Parks and Gardens<sup>43</sup>. While no details are known of the plan, it is likely that recommendations would have included replacements for senescent trees around the lake and the oval. Alternate species such as poplars were later planted on the eastern side of the oval or western bank of the lake to replace declining willows.

## Description

The oval is 167 metres long from north to south with a width of 109metres. The eastern and western sides have straight central sections approximately 58metres long. The centre of the oval is approximately 15metres north of the centre line of the grandstand, suggesting that the oval has been extended to the north at some stage, possibly as early as 1906. Further research could be carried out on this issue. (Council Minutes of 19/04/1906 discussed specifications of the oval and called for tenders for the works: "ploughing harrowing forming levelling grading rolling draining and sowing with grass.") The grass surface has a turf wicket in the centre.

The playing surface of the oval is enclosed by a galvanised pipe and wire mesh fence. The posts in front of the grandstand enclosure are rectangular concrete with rounded tops. This section is a remnant of the fence that replaced the pickets. A brick and concrete drain encircles the playing surface at the base of the fence. Two coaching boxes have been recently constructed in the fence on each side of the grandstand enclosure plus a light tower in the south-west. An asphalt embankment of varying width and varying degrees of slope surrounds the oval and provides viewing areas to the arena and a sense of enclosure. The eastern embankment also forms the western edge of Lake Victoria and has a perimeter walking track on top. The rotunda is set back 5.4 metres (6 yards) from the fence. The width of asphalt varies from 14 metres west of the rotunda, to 7.5 metres in front of the grandstand, to 8.6 metres on the eastern side of the oval. Vehicles currently park on the northern and eastern sides of the asphalt embankment to view events.

A row of five Dutch Elms (*Ulmus x hollandica*) remains to the southern end of the oval. The elm canopies form a backdrop for this end of the oval, while providing shade and a fine setting for the rotunda. Two trees on the eastern end of the row have been recently replaced with similar species. There is no consistency to the planting surrounding the remainder of the oval, including the eastern side. The c.1928 aerial photograph (*Figure 2.13*) showed an unbroken line of willows backed by pines encircling the lake. Willows have a useful life expectancy of around 50 years and it is therefore probable

that Linaker's plan would have proposed replacements for the 50 year old trees. Current species include poplars and willows along the lake edge (*Populus alba* 'Pyramidalis', *Salix babylonica*, *S. alba*, *S. babylonica* var. *pekinensis* 'Tortuosa'), together with a more recent planting of Claret Ash (*Fraxinus angustifolia* var. *oxycarpa* 'Raywood'). Species to the north of the oval include Deodar (*Cedrus deodara*), Dutch Elm, Plane (*Platanus x acerifolia*) and Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*). A Dutch Elm immediately north of the grandstand is a remnant from an early planting, probably at the same time as the southern elms. This tree is in poor condition. A group of three Red Cedars (*Toona ciliata*) and a Plane have been planted south of the grandstand and clubrooms. The Red Cedars were propagated from seed collected in 1985 from a tree in the Phillips Gardens and planted in Prince's Park about 1987. This species is rarely grown in Victoria, the only other known examples being 2 trees in Phillips Gardens and 4 trees in the Royal Botanic Gardens<sup>44</sup>.

### Significance

The oval has considerable historic importance and social value, as it has been the focal point for active recreation and community events in Maryborough since 1857. Prince's Park and oval is amongst the oldest recreation reserves in Victoria, and may be the oldest in rural Victoria. The oval has developed from a mining ground into a cricket ground, has been surrounded by a cycling track that has since been removed, has been re-fenced and has possibly been extended in both length and width. While the dimensions of the oval are unimportant, it is of primary significance to Prince's Park as a place for active recreation and community events. The southern elms flanking the band rotunda are also of primary significance for their aesthetic value, while the three Red Cedars are of primary significance for their scientific (botanical) values. The concrete fence posts are of contributory significance as they are remnants of work carried out in the 1930s Depression. The fencing, scoreboard and trees to the eastern and northern embankments have no significance.

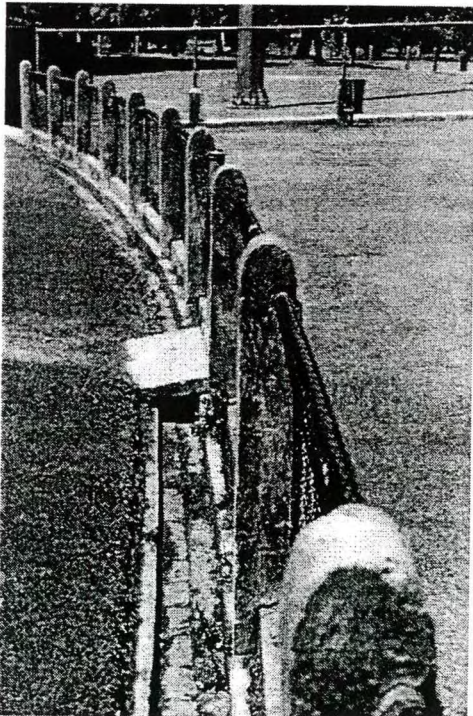


Figure 3.15 Concrete fence posts and perimeter drain in front of the grandstand enclosure

### 3.9 Band Rotunda

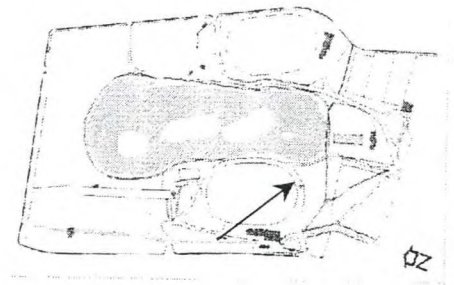


Figure 3.16 Band Rotunda

#### Brief History

The rotunda was designed by Maryborough's Town Clerk, HN Phillips, to commemorate the town's golden jubilee in 1904. The Council approved the Town Clerk's plans in January 1905 and directed the Public Works Committee to select a site<sup>45</sup>. Construction was deferred due to the high amounts of tenders received. The work was finished in December 1905, complete with gas lighting, for the cost of £130<sup>46</sup>. Robinson's Soho Foundry of Maryborough produced the cast iron. Bick states that this was the only major public structure produced by the Soho Foundry<sup>47</sup>, although many buildings in the town carried examples of its cast iron. The original structure included a cast iron gate at the top of the steps and an octagonal timber music stand in the centre of the floor<sup>48</sup>. The band rotunda was included on the National Trust Register in 1975.



## **Description**

The single storey octagonal band rotunda is late Victorian in style. Eight cast iron columns support the corrugated iron double-curved roof with domed top and flagpole. Decoration consists of a cast iron lace frieze and cast iron balustrade. The base plinth is red brick. Timber steps provide access on the eastern side. The ceiling is lined with timber boards. Recent restoration of the rotunda involved replacing damaged cast iron balustrade panels with cast aluminium replicas. Some of the original panels are held by the Midland Historical Society at Worsely Cottage. The rotunda is flanked by a row of mature English Elms (*Ulmus procera*) and overlooks the southern end of the oval.

Few nineteenth century or early twentieth century rotundas and band rotundas remain in Victoria. The Maryborough example is about the ninth oldest after the Fitzroy Gardens - East Melbourne (1864, 1873), Beechworth - Town Hall Gardens and cemetery (1876), Rushworth (1888), Walhalla (1896), Buninyong Botanical Gardens (1901) and Hamilton Botanic Gardens (1904).

## **Significance**

The rotunda is important for its association with Maryborough's golden jubilee, its association with an important local government officer, and as a fine example of the splendid cast iron work of the local Soho foundry. It is of primary significance to Prince's Park although some of the fabric is no longer original.

### 3.10 Parkland South of Prince's Oval

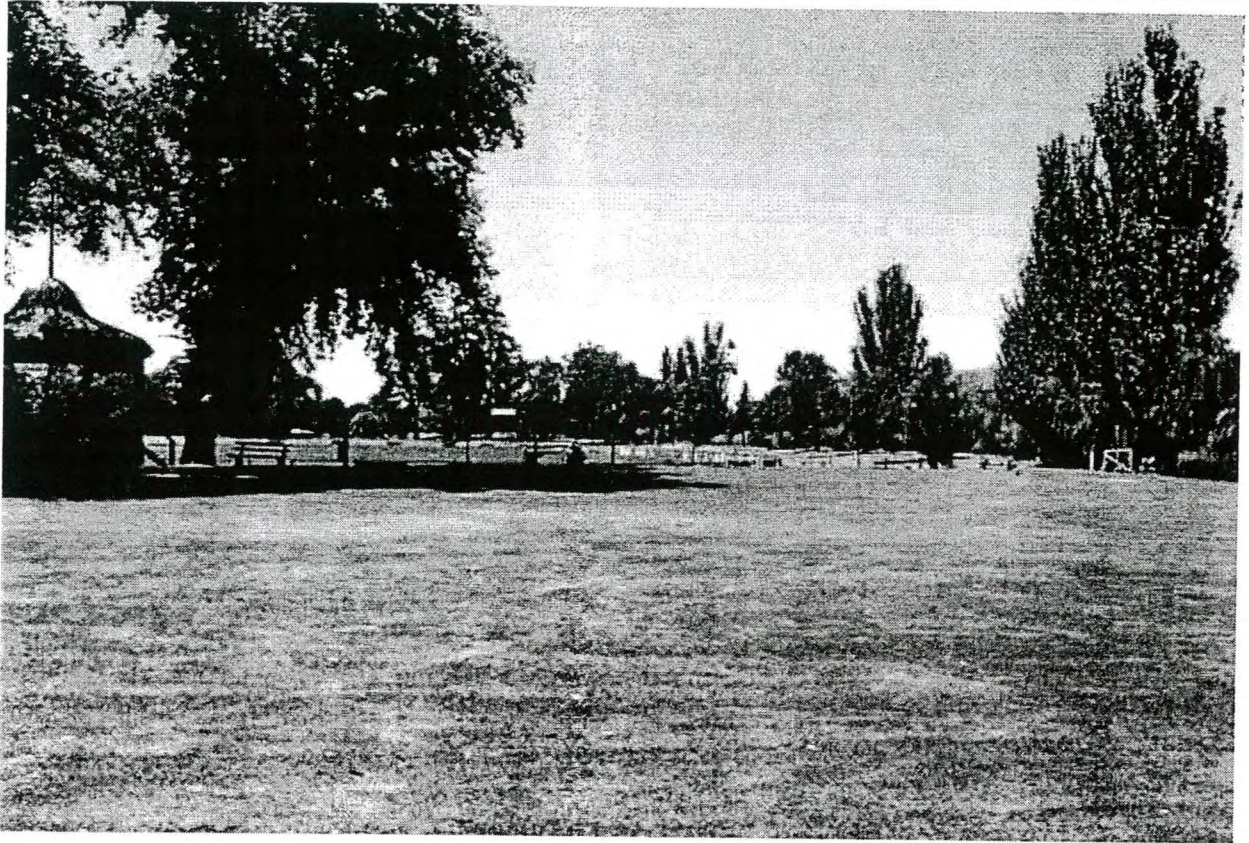
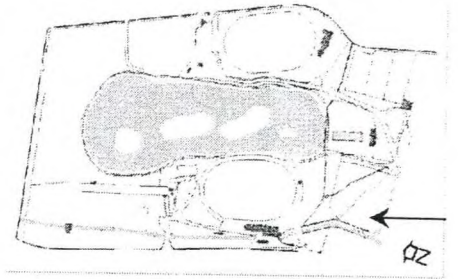


Figure 3.17 Eastern end of Rotunda Lawn

#### Brief History

The south-western portion of the park was not part of the original Prince's Park reservation of 1863. It was shown on early plans as a gas works reservation bounded by Wilson Street, Princess Street, Alma Street and Earl Street. The two former streets were later included in the reserve. The c.1887 lithograph (*Figure 2.1*) showed the area as a vacant space enclosed by pines planted to the northern and eastern sides. The southern and western margins had already been defined by the construction of the main drain (1881) and the Blackman's Lead arm (1885). A fire brigade training track was laid diagonally across the southern section, possibly before 1909. The Council Minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> April 1909 record a motion to remove an asphalt fire brigade track using day labour; this track was located in front of the grandstand and had apparently been made redundant by the new track. A timber tower was erected by the finish line at the western end. The close proximity of the main drain to the finish line meant that competing teams of fireman had to stop suddenly to prevent the hose reel from falling into the drain<sup>49</sup>. The c.1928 aerial photograph (*Figure 2.12*) showed the training track within an avenue of young deciduous trees. Mature conifers surrounded the perimeter of the lawn. By 1946 the lawns had been extensively planted with trees (*Figure 2.15*), possibly to a plan prepared by Hugh Linaker in the 1930s<sup>50</sup>. Linaker was an important landscape designer of the early twentieth century, being employed by the State Lunacy

Department from 1912 and was appointed in the 1930s as the State Superintendent of Parks and Gardens. He was initially responsible for landscape design and maintenance of all city and regional Lunatic Asylums. His work later expanded to include the surrounds of the Shrine of Remembrance as well as many public parks and gardens throughout the state, for example, Ararat, Stawell, Castlemaine, Beechworth and Buchan Caves. Unfortunately, no details are known of his plan for Prince's Park. However, comparison to other known examples of his work show the use of a mix of native and exotic trees laid out in an informal manner similar to that of the fire brigade track surrounds.

A pathway originally connected the western end of the fire brigade training track with the pedestrian bridge leading to the entrance garden (refer to 1946 Sewerage Authority Plan, *Figure 2.16B*). Other gravel paths divided the southern area from the rotunda lawn and the swimming pool enclosure to the east. A new fire brigade training track was constructed on the western side of Lake Victoria in 1939<sup>51</sup> although the old bitumen track still remained in place. A drinking fountain was erected south-east of the main entry bridge in 1988 in memory of Russell Eastwood for services to the Maryborough Lions' Club. A new pedestrian bridge was recently erected over the drain in the south-western corner, leading to a new entry from the adjacent commercial area.

## Description

The parkland south of Prince's Oval is divided into two sections by a timber barrier rail. The northern section, or rotunda lawn, is a well-maintained lawn south of the oval embankment. This is a multi-purpose space that is used for events such as the amusements / sideshows associated with the Highland Gathering. The lawn is roughly triangular in shape and is bounded by a concrete path on the southern side. A remnant of brick drain in the north-eastern corner near the lake hints at an earlier path edge treatment. Large conifers appeared to occupy some of the lawn area in 1926 (*Figure 2.12*). There are several old conifers adjacent to the western end of the lawn remaining from the late nineteenth / early twentieth century planting. These include Bunya Bunya Pine (*Araucaria bidwillii*), Deodar Cedar (*Cedrus deodara*), Californian Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*) and a hybrid form of Bhutan Cypress (*Cupressus torulosa* x *lusitanica*). A low pine log barrier separates the northern section from the southern area.

The southern section consists of extensive tree planting in grass. The old fire brigade training track is still evident, although two trees have been planted in the asphalt at the western end, one of these being a young specimen of Bunya Bunya Pine (*Araucaria bidwillii*). The tower no longer exists, as it was replaced by a steel tower and later moved to the new location.<sup>52</sup> No trees remain from the avenue lining the track as seen in *Figure 2.12*, although eight Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*) survive from the late nineteenth / early twentieth century perimeter planting to the south and east. The grass area is now filled with a variety of native and exotic trees. The trees appear to be planted roughly parallel to the track, the most notable being a row of five Lemon-scented Gums (*Corymbia citriodora*), and two shorter rows of Southern Mahogany (*Eucalyptus botryoides*) and Golden Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa* 'Horizontalis Aurea'). This mix of trees dating from the 1930s can possibly be attributed to the "beautification scheme", drawn up by Hugh Linaker. The planting layout is not a particularly good piece of design, notwithstanding its association with an eminent landscape gardener. The replacement of a strong design element, i.e., the original avenue of deciduous trees, with random planting plus parallel rows is difficult to understand. Some of the trees are of more recent planting.

A pedestrian bridge has been constructed over the Blackman's Lead drain near the junction with the main drain in the south-western corner, creating a new entry to the park. The bridge has steel balustrades with simple diagonal bracing, a reference to the steel latticework in the 1909 bridge over the main drain. A concrete path follows the main drain towards the park entrance. Other changes after the 1946 plan include a concrete path leading to the Earl Street entrance, or Hubble's Gate, and the relocation of a road further east against the swimming pool fence.

The northern lawn is used for various events such as Christmas carols and as a sideshow area for the Highland Gathering. Some picnic tables are scattered among the trees further south of the pine log barrier. The fire brigade track and surrounds are currently used for major event car parking. The grass in this area is not covered by the irrigation system and has a lower maintenance regime.

### Significance

The rotunda lawn is an important open space for multi-purpose use but has no known heritage value other than for its social association. The parkland to the south is of historic interest for its associations with Hugh Linaker and the planting design overlaid on the original site of the fire brigade training track. However, the planting modifications around the training track have reduced the value of this area and it is considered to be of contributory significance to the park. The unusual form of Bhutan Cypress (*Cupressus torulosa* var. *corneyana*) is uncommon in Victoria and is also of contributory significance.



Figure 3.18 South park and trees. The row of Lemon-scented Gums is planted parallel to the old fire brigade track.

### 3.11 Olympic Swimming Pool Complex

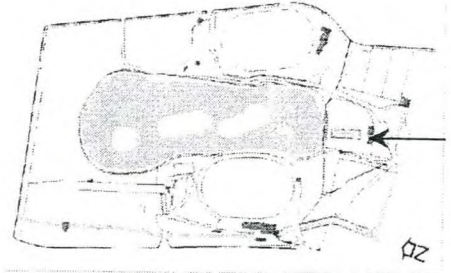


Figure 3.19 Swimming pool entrance pavilion

#### Brief History

The Maryborough Municipal Olympic Swimming Complex was located on the site of the docks at the southern end of Lake Victoria, *Figure 2.15*. The basin seen in the c.1887 lithograph (*Figure 2.1*) had been excavated to a rectangular shape with timber sidewalls, and a raised bridge at the northern end allowed boat access from the lake (*Figure 2.11*). Tall conifers enclosed the area in 1928 forming part of the planting around the reserve boundaries and the lake. Local architect EJ Peck designed the new pool complex, with city engineers EJ Muntz and J Hocking. Construction commenced in 1939 and was completed 1940. The complex as originally constructed comprised a reinforced concrete and brick entrance pavilion, an Olympic swimming pool, an octagonal wading pool, a service building with chlorinating plant and formal pathways surrounded by lawns (*Figure 2.15*). Sir Frank Beaufrepaire officially opened the complex in 1940. A front hedge, five conifers to the western side and two Weeping Elms were planted at this time. Small shrubs were formally planted around the perimeter pathways. The fence enclosing the eastern side of the complex curved from the end of the entry pavilion to run parallel

with the long axis of the main pool. An intermediate pool was added in 1973, requiring alterations to the path layout. The Complex was included on the Victorian Heritage Register in 1997, Number 1319.

## Description

The complex remains essentially as built except for the addition of a rectangular intermediate pool and two shade structures, with corresponding modifications to the pathway layout; the pathways parallel to the main pool have been removed. The eastern fence alignment has changed to follow the road alignment and include three additional trees in the enclosure; two of these are Red Ironbarks (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*), the end of the planting further to the east. The Art Deco facade of the entrance pavilion is the central feature. The formal shrub planting around the pools has been removed and some new trees have been added. Trees remaining from the original planting are two Weeping Elms (*Ulmus glabra* 'Camperdownii'), a Blue Cedar (*Cedrus atlantica* f. *glauca*), three Himalayan Cedars (*C. deodara*), two Bhutan Cypresses (*Cupressus torulosa*), a Camphor Laurel (*Cinnamomum camphora*) and the Chinese Hawthorn hedge (*Photinia serrulata*). A Cypress (possibly *Cupressus lusitanica* or *C. glabra*) on the curve of the eastern fence blew over in a storm on Boxing Day 1999 and had to be removed. This tree was one of nine different species planted outside the fence in 1953, as shown on the planting plan for Coronation Park. The hedge has not been maintained, resulting in the canopy being raised and no longer providing a low-level screen. The entry surrounds have a neglected appearance and are dominated by car parking and a row of Lombardy Poplars (*Populus nigra* 'Italica').

The Victorian Heritage Register citation (Appendix B) states that few examples of swimming pool complexes designed in the late 1930s remain intact. Frank Beaurepaire encouraged the building of similar facilities throughout the state, as part of his long commitment to swimming.

## Significance

The pool complex has aesthetic, architectural, historic and social significance and is of primary significance to Prince's Park. It is a rare intact example of a late 1930s complex in a picturesque garden setting overlooking the lake. It is historically significant for its association with Frank Beaurepaire.

### 3.12 Lake Victoria

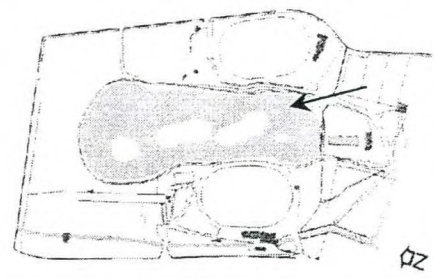


Figure 3.20 Lake Victoria

#### Brief History

At the first council meeting in 1883, it was resolved that a lagoon be created in Prince's Park<sup>53</sup> (Osborn & DuBourg, p285.), presumably following the precedent set by Carisbrook. The Borough surveyor and Town Clerk, Fred Hughes had drawn up plans, with the lake intended to be of similar dimensions to Lake Weeroona at Sandhurst (Bendigo). Excavation of the lake commenced immediately using prison labour and continued through 1884. The prisoners initially used wheelbarrows but were later provided with miner's trolleys and rails to remove the soil. An embankment was created on the western side with some of the excavated material. Work ceased during 1885 when the prison labour was used to excavate the Blackman's Lead arm of the drain. Contractors were engaged in 1886 to complete the excavations using horses and drays, while the prisoners returned to provide additional labour. A dock was excavated at the southern end at the request of Pascoe & Son, who wished to operate their paddle steamer in the lake. The sides of the dock were to be sloped and lined with timber.<sup>54</sup> The lake took two years to fill, commencing in 1886.<sup>55</sup>

William Guilfoyle, Director of the Melbourne Botanic Gardens, visited Maryborough at the council's request for two days in 1883 to advise on landscape design. He prepared sketches for paths and planting beds for the lake surrounds and recommended the inclusion of at least two islands for aesthetic reasons.<sup>56</sup> The Maryborough Rowing Club moved its activities from the Goldfields Reservoir to the lake in 1887 and a boathouse was also relocated. Rowing was included as an event in the Highland Gathering in 1894. The sport declined in popularity in the early 1900s and the boathouse was removed in 1909.

The 1887 lithograph (*Figure 2.1*) showed no islands in the lake, but an undulating margin opposite the oval on the western side. Pines were planted around the oval. The view seen in *Figure 2.11* from the docks at the southern end of the lake shows pines, willows and pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana*) to the undulating lake margin. By c.1928, the aerial photograph (*Figure 2.13*) showed a single island at the northern end, constructed in 1905, with a dense row of Weeping Willows (*Salix babylonica*) backed by Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*) to the perimeter. A track was also visible on the embankment. The western edge appeared to have been straightened, suggesting that the oval may have been widened. There were no longer pines in this section, but only willows, giving further support to the oval expansion theory. The southern end was modified by the construction of the swimming pool complex in 1940.

Although the rowing club had ceased operations, the lake was used by power boats and a water skiing club was established. A timber wharf was constructed in the south-west corner in the 1970s. In 1982 the lake was drained for cleaning, possibly for the second time: Bruce Osborn stated that "on the previous occasion the bank was moved 15 feet into the lake".<sup>57</sup> Three islands were built and the original island was enlarged. After the lake was refilled in 1982, 1700 fish were released including 500 native Freshwater Catfish, golden perch, silver perch and Murray yellowbelly.

Recent works include a gold panning stream constructed on the eastern bank in 1990 and modifications to the overflow to the western embankment caused by construction of the netball court.

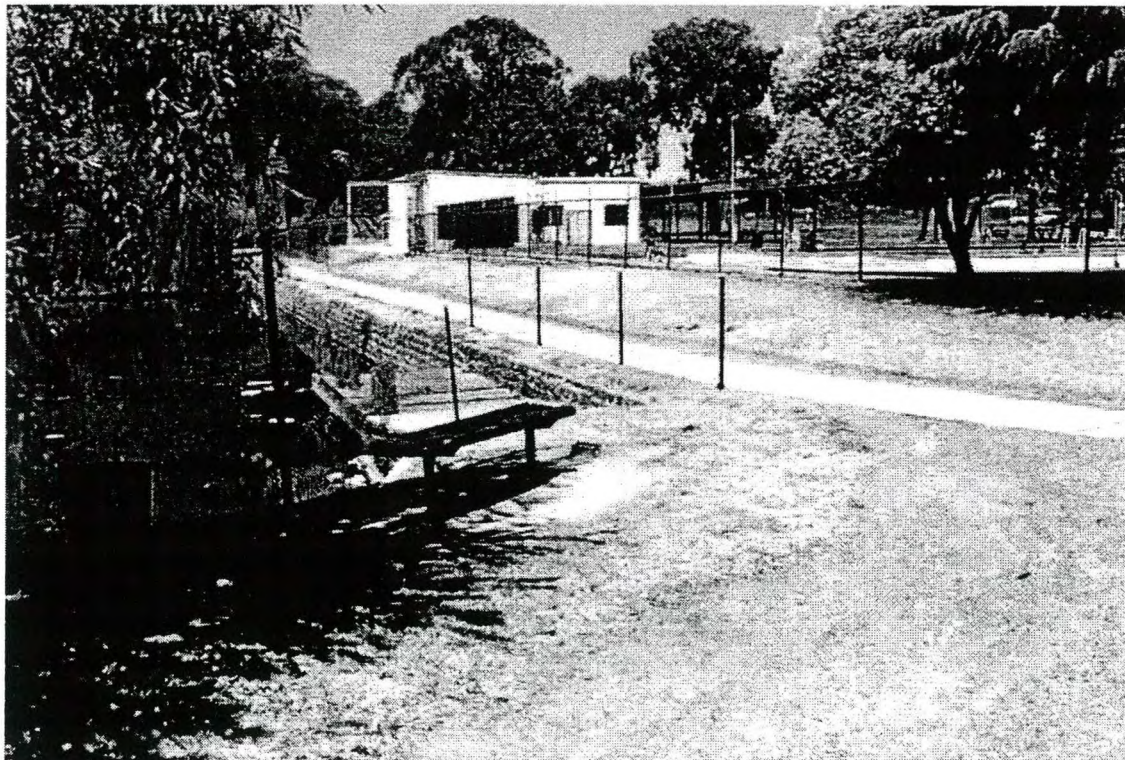


Figure 3.21 The southern end of Lake Victoria with bluestone retaining wall and timber wharf.



## Description

Lake Victoria covers an area of 6.6 hectares, being 440 m long with an average width of 150 m. The widest section is at the northern end. The southern end is a straight bluestone-lined embankment. There is a small timber wharf in a poor state of repair in the south-western corner. The western side of the lake is retained by an embankment, as this is roughly the low point in the centre of the park representing the original Four Mile Creek alignment. There are four islands of various sizes, all of which are overgrown with willows, pines, poplars, pampas grass and reeds. The northern island is roughly circular in plan and 45 m in diameter. It has been built around the much smaller 1905 island. The two centre islands built in 1982 are both approximately 90 m long by 35 m wide. The southern island is the smallest with a diameter of around 15 m. The lake is surrounded by a gravel walking track following the shore or the top of the embankment. A concrete path at the southern end links both sides of Prince's Park across the northern end of the swimming pool complex.

Planting around the lake shore is dominated by Weeping Willow (*Salix babylonica*), White Fastigate Poplar (*Populus alba* 'Pyramidalis'), Lombardy Poplar (*P. nigra* 'Italica') and some mature specimens of Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*). The pines are possible remnants from the late nineteenth century planting around the lake. Other species include White Willow (*Salix alba*) and Tortured Willow (*S. babylonica* var. *pekinensis* 'Tortuosa'). There is no apparent pattern to the planting arrangement, and no evidence remains of any planting design or layout that could be attributed to Guilfoyle. However, it is possible that some of the perimeter planting, being replacements for the original 1880s willows, could be attributed to Hugh Linaker who is known to have favoured such species as Lombardy Poplars.<sup>58</sup> (Refer also to Section 3.8 Prince's Oval.)

The population of Freshwater Catfish within the lake is considered to be extremely rare in Victoria, due to a dramatic decline in the last 30 years. The species is listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* that means the species cannot currently be caught in Victoria without a licence. Fortunately, the population is reported to be very large and self-sustaining.

The change in character of the lake caused by construction of new islands and by the stocking with fish has improved its aesthetic appeal. Conversely, it has also led to changes and restrictions in the recreational use. Regulations now restrict boating to non-powered craft, fishing is not permitted from boats and swimming is prohibited.

## Significance

Lake Victoria was originally conceived as an open body of water for use by rowing clubs and pleasure boats. It contained only one small island and a secondary body of water at the southern end, "the docks", that became the site for the Olympic Swimming Pool Complex. Its western margins were possibly affected by the enlargement of the oval in the early twentieth century. Since draining and cleaning operations in 1982, it has undergone a complete change of character, with the additional islands and the enlargement of the original island serving to enhance its visual qualities. The perimeter planting has been gradually degraded from its original simple planting theme of willows backed by pines and is rated as having contributory significance. Nevertheless, the lake remains of prime significance to Prince's Park for its aesthetic values, for its historic associations with prison labour and William Guilfoyle and for its social value to the local community. The introduction of a population of the native Freshwater Catfish, a species that is now rare in Victoria, has given the lake scientific significance.

### 3.13 Fire Brigade Training Track and Hockey Ground

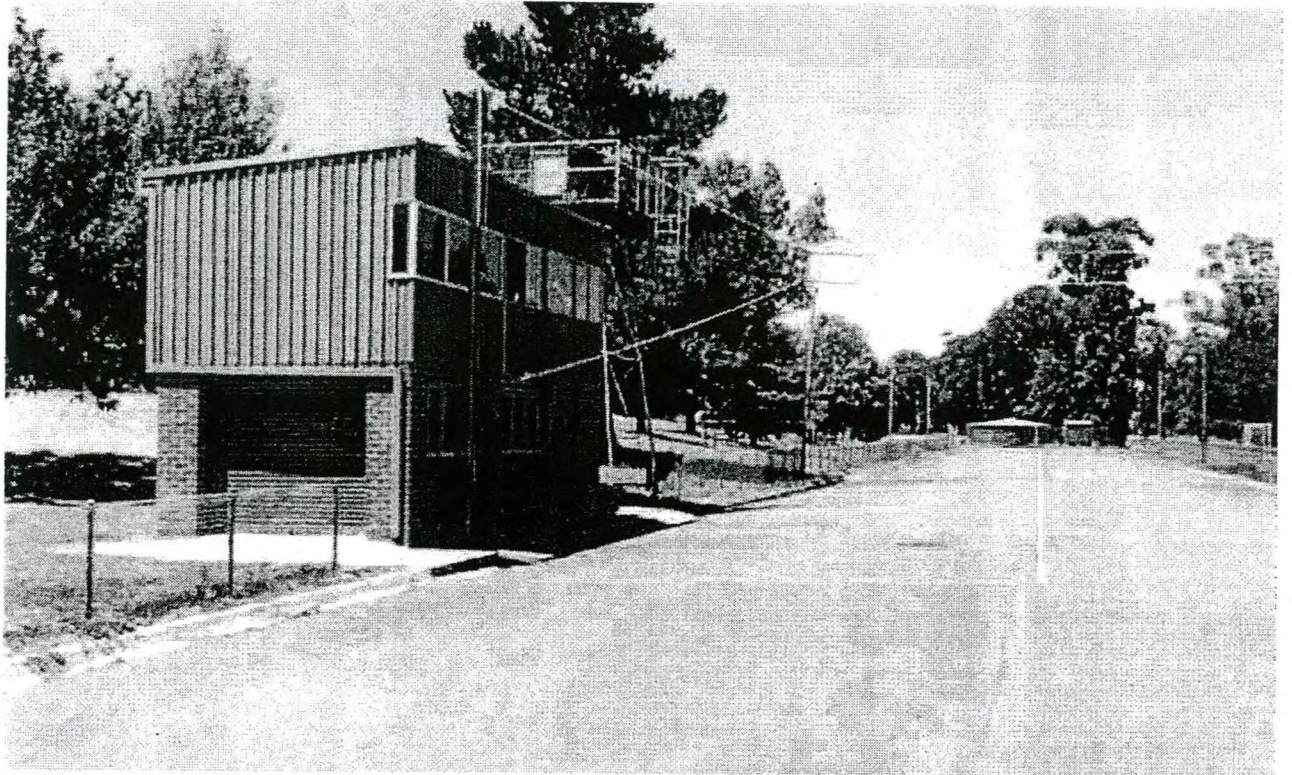
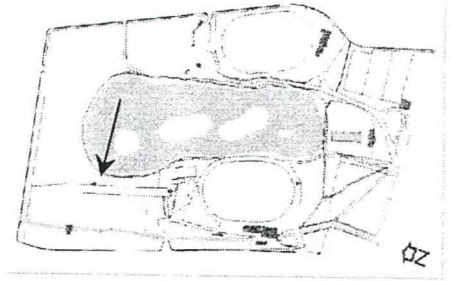


Figure 3.22 View of fire brigade training track from north with 1964 judges box and tower.

#### Brief History:

The Maryborough Fire Brigade was established in 1861 and the engine shed was constructed in Neill Street. The original brigade Captain was Councillor Thomas Casey who retained this position until 1917<sup>59</sup>. The Fire Brigade was present on formal occasions as well as serving a much-needed function. It formed part of the grand procession to Prince's Park to celebrate the Prince of Wales' wedding in 1863. A training track had been established at an unknown date on Prince's Oval in front of the grandstand. In 1897 concern was expressed that the proposed new cycling track "would interfere with the running track laid down for the firemen"<sup>60</sup>. This track was used for state championships held in 1903<sup>61</sup>. At this time the training reels were stored in a shed at the rear of the grandstand<sup>62</sup>. A new training track was laid diagonally across the lawn in the south-western section of Prince's Park, possibly before 1909. The council minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> April 1909 record a motion to remove an asphalt fire brigade track using day labour. Cr Casey's motion that the track should remain in place was defeated. The minutes presumably refer to the track on the oval that had been made redundant. The location of the second track was restricted by the proximity of the main drain near the finish line. As a result, a third training track was opened in November 1939 in its current location<sup>63</sup>. The only restrictions in this location were the rows of

mature Monterey Pines surrounding the lake, and some of these were partially removed for the track construction (refer to *Figure 2.15*). The remaining trees had to be removed after storm damage in 1961.<sup>64</sup> The track appears to have been laid across the line of a pedestrian path leading from the Tweedale gates around the end of the lake to the north-eastern corner of the reserve. The judges' box was constructed in 1963/64.<sup>65</sup> The training track was named after Patrick G Mullins in 1986, who served as Captain of the brigade from 1956 to 1984<sup>66</sup>. A fire brigade marshall track was constructed at the southern end of the hockey ground in 1996 and named after Douglas M Baxter.

The date of establishment of the hockey ground is unknown, possibly in the late 1930s. The Maryborough Basketball and Hockey Association was formed in 1938<sup>67</sup> and was still in existence by 1960 when it became the Netball Association<sup>68</sup>. This area appears to have served as a small cricket ground prior to 1946, taking up a little more than half the current area (*Figure 2.15*), and had already been planted with a row of Dutch Elms (*Ulmus x hollandica*) to the western side, possibly in the early 1900s. The elms extended north along Holyrood Street past the lake. The Silver Jubilee Pavilion, commemorating 25 years of Queen Elizabeth's reign, was built over the main drain in 1977 to provide facilities to serve both the playing fields and the Coronation Park picnic area. Additional trees have been cleared since 1946 to extend the length of the playing field to the south.

### **Description:**

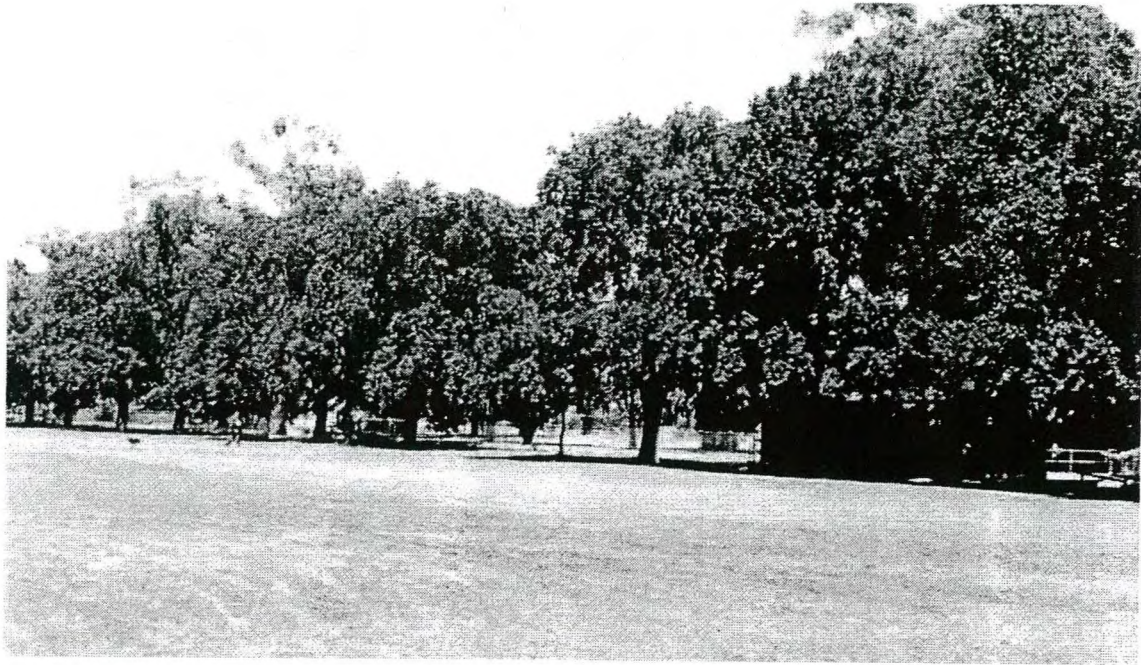
The fire brigade training track is located between the western embankment of Lake Victoria and the hockey ground. The track is surfaced with asphalt and edged with concrete kerbs. Both sides are lined with low welded mesh fencing. Structures associated with the track include the two-storey brick judges' box on the eastern side, an adjacent mobile steel tower, plus overhead targets supported by poles and wires. A concrete water storage tank and pump house are situated near the southern end. The marshall track at the southern end of the hockey ground is adjacent to a small parking area. Two rock-mounted bronze plaques bear the names of the training track and the marshall track. Only one of the Monterey Pines that lined the western side of the lake remains to the east of the track. Some of the trees at the southern end near the marshall track may have been planted in the 1920s or 1930s.

The hockey ground is a long grassed area with a north-south axis. It is used as an overflow car parking area for large sporting events and the Highland Gathering. The main drain on the western side has a low fence facing Coronation Park. A low treated pine barrier prevents the entry of vehicles from Holyrood Street at the northern end. The 1977 pavilion has a flat roof and metal fascia and is faced with grey split concrete blocks. The building includes change rooms, toilets and a shelter for spectators on the eastern side. Narrow concrete bridges over the drain provide access. The western side of the ground has a row of Dutch Elms (*Ulmus x hollandica*) parallel to the main drain (*Figure 3.23*). The elm row continues across the northern end of the field, parallel to Holyrood Street. Towards the southern end of the western row, a Yellow Gum (*Eucalyptus leucoxylon*) with a trunk circumference of 3.6 metres pre-dates the elms and is at least 120 years old. This tree is either regrowth following completion of alluvial mining activities or is a remnant of the original site vegetation. Its trunk has a 4 metre high scar on the western side. A Silky Oak (*Grevillea robusta*) has been recently planted in the row of elms near the pavilion, presumably to fill a gap where an elm has been removed.

### **Significance:**

The Maryborough Fire Brigade has enjoyed a long association with Prince's Park. While it is important that such a facility be retained for both historical and social reasons, the third training track to be built in the park lacks aesthetic appeal, due to its utilitarian nature and the removal of surrounding vegetation. It is therefore rated as having no significance. The row of elms to the north and west of the hockey ground has considerable aesthetic appeal and is of contributory significance to Prince's Park. The Yellow Gum

*(Eucalyptus leucoxylon)* contained within the row is of primary significance as a good example of the original vegetation. The Silver Jubilee Pavilion is an intrusive structure built over the main drain.



*Figure 3.23 Hockey ground with row of Dutch Elms (Ulmus x hollandica)*

### 3.14 Coronation Park

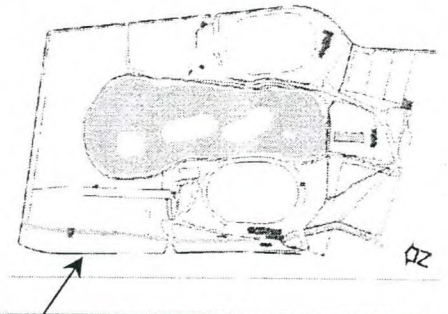


Figure 3.24 View of Coronation Park from the south.

#### **Brief History:**

The previous use for the narrow strip of parkland between the main drain and Park Road is unknown. The 1946 aerial photograph (*Figure 2.15*) showed a sparsely planted lawn, plus the large canopy of a Eucalyptus, to the rear of the avenue of street trees. The strip from the Tweedale Gates to the rear of the grandstand, known as the “Long Lawn”, appeared to have been more recently planted. 56 additional trees were planted in Coronation Park to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II's coronation in 1953. A plan recorded the new tree locations, believed to have been prepared by the Parks and Gardens' curator, Henry Whiting<sup>69</sup>. Representatives of many community groups and sporting bodies, including members of the Borough council, were each responsible for planting a tree<sup>70</sup>. The Silver Jubilee Pavilion was constructed over the main drain in 1977 to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> year of the Queen's reign. Picnic facilities were provided by the Lions' Club, including shelters, barbeques, tables and playground equipment.

### Description:

A wide variety of trees have been planted in Coronation Park, also known as Lions' Wayside Park, including some unusual specimens such as Plum Pine (*Afrocarpus falcata*) in the Long Lawn. The oldest tree is a specimen of Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) with a trunk circumference of 4.8 metres and a height of approximately 20 metres (refer to the canopy seen in *Figure 2.15*). This tree is around 140 to 150 years old and is likely to have been growing before the alluvial mining activities began (*Figure 3.25*). Other trees of interest include a row of seven Canary Island Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) in the Long Lawn. There is little design apparent in the layout of the planting as it appears to be largely an overlay on an earlier scheme. There is a pattern of spring-flowering trees and purple-leaved and coloured foliage cultivars.

Structures include the Silver Jubilee Pavilion, barbeques, shelters, picnic tables, pine log construction playground equipment, rubbish bins, lighting and assorted signs. These are randomly placed using a variety of materials and require coordination. A low chain wire mesh fence has been constructed to the western side of the main drain.

A precast concrete horse trough is located on the nature strip west of Park Road, bearing the inscription: "DONATED BY / ANNIS AND GEORGE BILLS / AUSTRALIA". This is one of many similar troughs around the world that were donated by the Bills Trust after the death of George Bills in 1927. The troughs were mass-produced to a standard design until the late 1930s.<sup>71</sup> The concrete surface has been painted in contrasting colours and the basins are used as flower boxes.

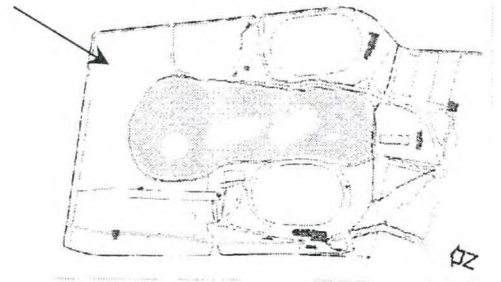
### Significance:

The trees provide a pleasant setting for the western side of the Prince's Park reserve. Different eras of planting are represented, with the most plants belonging to the 1950s decade. However, while there are some specimens of note, the planting is uncoordinated and is of no significance. The Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) is of primary significance as one of two remaining examples of the original vegetation of the area, the other being the Yellow Gum (*Eucalyptus leucoxylon*) on the east side of the main drain. The horse trough provides a link with the era of horse-drawn transport and is of contributory significance. The picnic and playground facilities are of no significance.



*Figure 3.25 Remnant Grey Box (Eucalyptus microcarpa) in Coronation Park. The Silver Jubilee Pavilion is on the right of the photograph.*

### 3.15 Caravan Park



#### Brief History:

A camping ground was in operation at the northern end of Prince's park by February 1938<sup>72</sup>, however there were no permanent structures up until 1946 (refer to *Figure 2.15*). Up to three rows of Monterey Pines, planted in the 1880s, lined the lake perimeter and took up most of the area. A row of Dutch Elms was planted parallel to Holyrood Street, possibly in the early 1900s. Some large trees in the north-eastern corner may have been remnant Eucalypts. Paths could be seen crossing the area to the north-eastern corner and adjacent streets, with tracks following both the curve of the lake and the pines. The caravan park operations would have commenced in the early 1950s. Improvements in 1960 included the appointment of a caretaker, the construction of a new toilet block and the installation of a hot water service following complaints of smelly drains and poor facilities<sup>73</sup>.

#### Description:

The caravan park is leased to a private operator. The area has been divided up into caravan sites and is served by a loop road entered from Holyrood Street. There are two amenity blocks, an office and several semi-permanent buildings. A painted hardwood post and rail barrier separates the western end of the caravan park from the hockey ground.

Most of the original Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*) have been removed although the remnants of the three lines of planting can be seen in the south-eastern sector. Eleven Dutch Elms (*Ulmus x hollandica*) also remain parallel to Holyrood Street while there are still large Eucalypts near Burns Street. Other mature trees include specimens of Canary Island Pine (*Pinus canariensis*) and Aleppo Pine (*Pinus halepensis*). Many young trees, mainly natives, have been planted between the caravan sites and around the boundaries. Monterey Pines, dating from around the 1930s, have also been planted along Holyrood Street to form a northern boundary planting.

#### Significance:

While caravans or camping can be said to be a form of recreation, the caravan park represents an alienation of a section of the public recreation reserve. The caravan park has no significance. The mature pines and elms are remnants of 1880s and early 1900s plantings to the park boundary and the lake; these are of contributory significance to Prince's Park.



### 3.16 Jubilee Oval

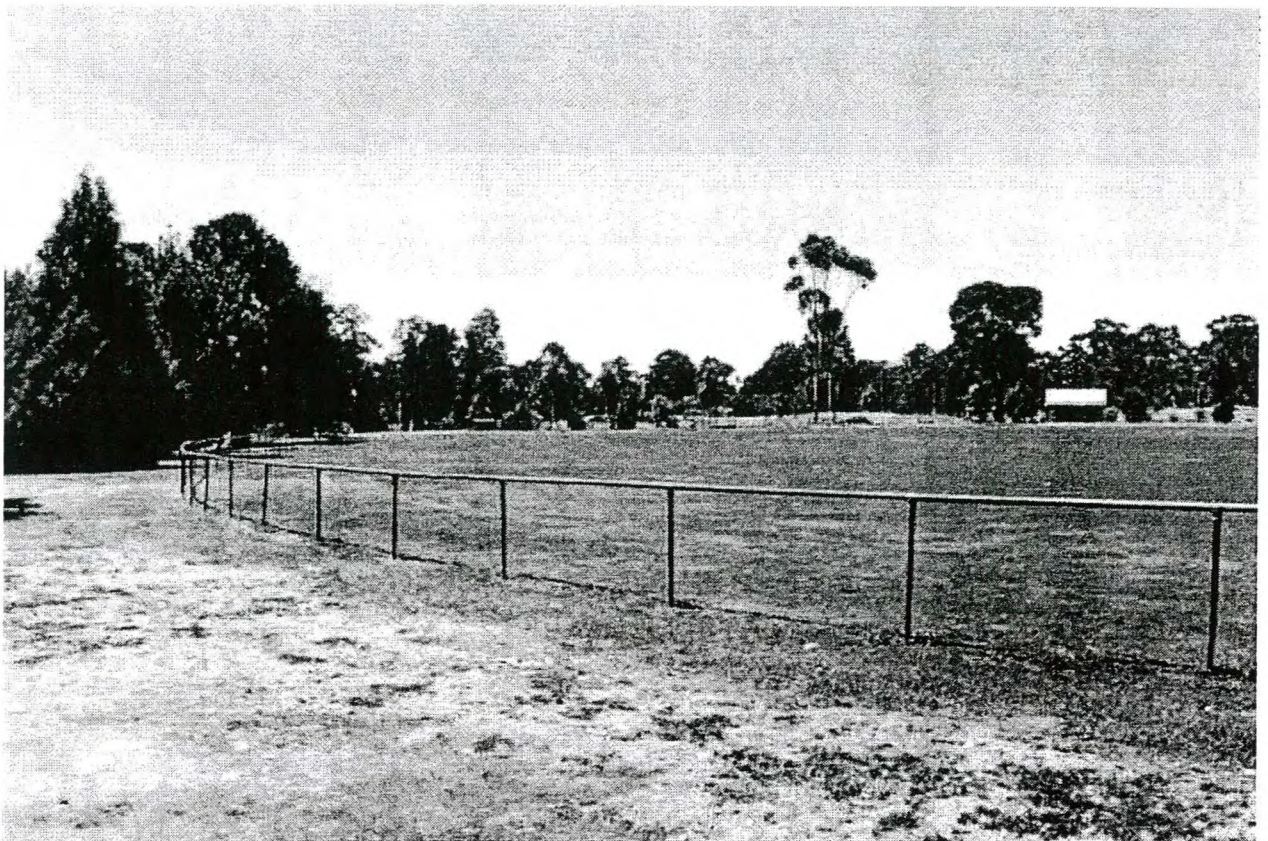
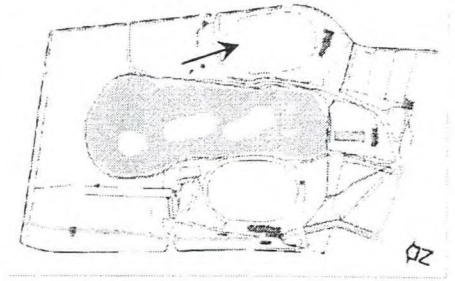


Figure 3.26 Jubilee Oval from the south-west.

#### **Brief History:**

The early use of this area since its inclusion in the reservation in the 1880s is unknown. The c.1928 aerial photograph (*Figure 2.13*) showed parkland with scattered trees to the eastern side of the lake and a row of pines along Burns Street. A seven-foot high picket fence was still present on this side of the Prince's Park during the Depression<sup>74</sup>. Many of the trees had been cleared by 1946, although pines remained to the eastern boundary and to the south of an oval-shaped playing ground that had been created. A well-used diagonal track across the oval appeared to lead from the commercial centre south of the park to the railway workshops east of the park (*Figure 2.15*). A move to establish a second oval in Prince's Park had been made after a public meeting in December 1946. The oval was officially named Jubilee Oval in 1951 to mark Victoria's 100 years of separation from New South Wales.<sup>75</sup> Clubrooms were added to the southern end, possibly later in the 1950s. A scoreboard and sheltered area have since been added to the eastern side of the building.

**Description:**

The Jubilee Oval is similar in size to Prince's Oval although it is slightly narrower. It is surrounded by a simple pipe-railing. Brick clubrooms have been built at the southern end and have been extended to the east (Figure 3.27). The siting of these facilities at the narrow end of the oval is unusual, although the position of the lake and the perimeter road on the western margin precluded construction on this side. Some of the Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*) remain to the park's perimeter along Burns Street, and to the south behind the clubrooms, but most have been removed. Some new planting has been added to the northern end, but the oval lacks sufficient shelter and remains exposed to winds. There are limited parking facilities.

**Significance:**

The oval has no significance.



Figure 3.27 Jubilee Oval clubhouse with scoreboard and pavilion.

### 3.17 Prince's Playground

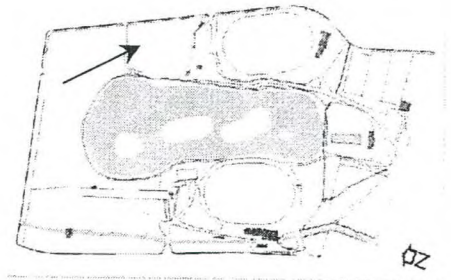


Figure 3.28 Prince's Playground parking area and toilet block.

#### Brief History:

The council discussed the possibility of “erecting swings and other necessaries and appliances” at Prince’s Park as early as 1905, to make the park more popular to picnic parties. This was in response to the large numbers of picnic groups perceived to be leaving the town and spending money outside the district<sup>76</sup>. It is not known if the council proceeded with the plan. The area containing the current playground was formerly parkland that was planted with randomly spaced trees by 1928. The space was contained between the pines surrounding the lake on the west and a tall picket fence with younger pines on the eastern boundary (Figure 2.13). By 1946, the parkland had been partially cleared to form a small playing field with a cricket pitch (Figure 2.15). At this time, three rows of pines still remained along the lake shore, and some large trees still existed to the north and south of the playing field. Two of the rows of pines were subsequently removed and the field was converted for use as a soccer pitch by 1975. Playground facilities were erected by the Lions’ Club in Coronation Park on the western side of Prince’s Park in the 1970s. The current playground on the eastern side of the lake is of recent origin having been constructed as a Bicentenary project in 1988-89, with the assistance of the Maryborough Lions’ Club. A toilet block was recently constructed at the eastern side of the car park adjacent to Burns Street.

**Description:**

Extensive grassed mounding covers most of the site of the former soccer pitch. A wooden tower and climbing wall is located at the south-western corner of the mounding. A concrete and rock-lined artificial stream commences from the mounding in the south-eastern end and runs towards the lake. A small decorative bridge on the lake perimeter pathway spans the artificial stream at its western end. A pump recirculates water from the lake. The stream provides a venue for gold panning competitions. Toilets, picnic facilities, barbeques and play equipment have been added to both sides of the stream. Car parking facilities line the road leading to Burns Street and separate the area from Jubilee Oval to the south.

A fine specimen of Aleppo Pine (*Pinus halepensis*), possibly planted around 1900, is located near the eastern boundary behind the toilet block. There is another specimen in the north-eastern corner. A mature Canary Island Pine (*P. canariensis*) is growing beside the barbeque shelter. Eleven mature Monterey Pines (*P. radiata*) still survive on the eastern side of the lake, while a further eight specimens are on the Burns Street frontage.

**Significance:**

The playground area has no significance. The mature pines are remnants of 1880s and early 1900s plantings and provide a fine setting for this area; they are of contributory significance to Prince's Park.

### 3.18 Tennis Courts

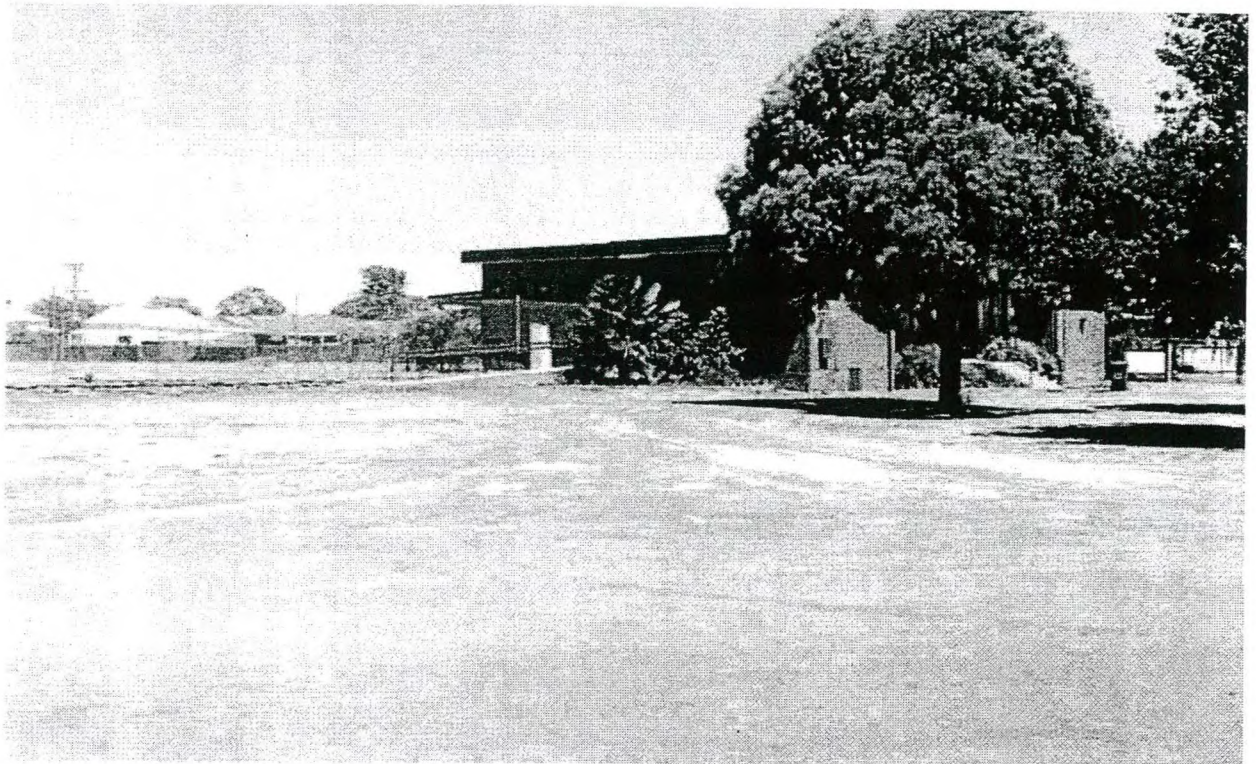
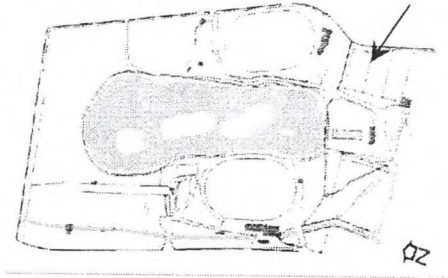


Figure 3.29 Tennis Courts and Clubhouse

#### Brief History:

Tennis has been played in Prince's Park since 1926 when an annual tournament was held on Prince's Oval. Lawn tennis courts were constructed in the south-eastern corner of the recreation reserve in 1936-38 after the removal of trees. The first pavilion burnt down in 1949.<sup>77</sup> This was shown as a weatherboard structure with a verandah on the 1946 Maryborough Sewerage Authority Plan. A temporary building was in turn replaced by a hut from Puckapunyal in 1961. Ten grass courts were constructed by 1955<sup>78</sup> and the area was expanded to accommodate fifteen by 1989. The clubhouse has been recently replaced.

#### Description:

The tennis courts occupy the south-eastern corner of Prince's Park with the brick clubhouse in the south-western corner of the complex. The central section of lawn courts has been converted to a synthetic surface in 1999-2000. There are no trees remaining on the Burns Street or eastern boundary. A fine stand of Red Ironbark (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*) divides the complex from Jubilee Oval at the northern

end. These trees could be seen on the 1946 aerial photograph (*Figure 2.15*) and could have been part of Linaker's late-1930s "beautification scheme".

**Significance:**

The tennis courts have no significance. The Red Ironbarks have contributory significance for their aesthetic value and for their possible association with the landscape designer, Hugh Linaker.



*Figure 3.30* Red Ironbarks (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*) to the north of the tennis courts.

### 3.19 Parkland North of Prince's Oval

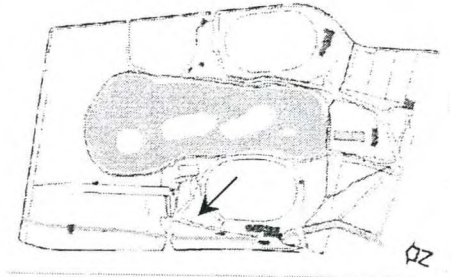


Figure 3.31 *Phoenician Juniper (Juniperus phoenicea) north-west of oval.*

#### **Brief History:**

This area was part of the original public recreation reserve dating from 1863. The original boatshed for the Maryborough rowing Club was located in this area from 1887 to 1911.<sup>79</sup> The boat-launching ramp nearby gave access to Lake Victoria and the lake overflow was also located in this area. The Highland Society maintained a store to the north of the oval that was removed after 1975. Cricket nets were constructed at the eastern side. An Art Deco toilet block was constructed near the main drain to replace two earlier toilet blocks in the late 1940s or 1950s. A group of mature Sugar Gums (*Eucalyptus cladocalyx*) north of the grandstand has been removed since 1992. A netball court is a recent introduction east of the cricket nets and one of the cricket nets has been removed.

#### **Description:**

The area is separated from the hockey ground and fire brigade track to the north by a chain mesh fence, extending from the main drain to the edge of the lake. It contains scattered trees and a number of unrelated structures. These include a concrete ticket office, the Art Deco toilet block, a concrete tank and corrugated iron pump house associated with the fire brigade track, two cricket nets and a single netball

court. Large areas to the western side are asphalt or grave surfaces while the remaining area to the east is non-irrigated grass. The principal use for the area is as a car park for major events. A diagonal asphalt road provides access for cars to park around the oval embankment. Other tracks lead to the netball court and cricket nets.

More research is required to determine the designer and construction date of the Art Deco toilet block. The building must have been constructed after the 1946 aerial photograph was taken (*Figure 2.15*), or the preparation of the Maryborough Sewerage Authority Plan (20 August 1946).

The Phoenician Juniper (*Juniperus phoenicea*), near the western side, is classified by the National Trust as it is the only known specimen in Victoria. It is approximately 90 years old. It has also been rarely cultivated in other states, with one tree at Wellington in NSW and 10 trees in South Australia (1 in Adelaide Botanic Gardens, 1 at Mt Lofty, 8 in Botanic Park). The tree is isolated from traffic and is protected by a ring of recycled plastic bollards. None of the other trees remaining in the area appear to have been planted before the late 1930s.

### **Significance:**

The parkland north of Prince's Oval has a level of social importance through its long use by various community groups, yet it is aesthetically degraded and therefore rated as having no significance. The netball court is an intrusive element. The Phoenician Juniper is of state importance and is therefore of primary significance to Prince's Park. The Art Deco toilet block is complementary to the style of the Olympic Swimming Pool entrance pavilion and is of contributory significance.



## 4.0 COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT

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### 4.1 Assessment Criteria and Methodology

The significance of the Prince's Park reserve, Maryborough, has been assessed against the criteria used by the Australian Heritage Commission and Heritage Victoria. The methodology used by Dr Jim Kerr has also been referenced.<sup>80</sup>

### 4.2 The Origins of Public Gardens

Parks for public use began appearing in England in the nineteenth century, designed to provide 'breathing spaces and recreation grounds for the people'.<sup>81</sup> It was generally believed that there was a strong need for green spaces, particularly in industrial towns. Initially, however, these were funded by private benefactors rather than by the government. In 1843, Birkenhead Park was established outside Liverpool in the hope that 'the congestion and drudgery of factories and docks would in some measure be offset by an open place reflecting country-type scenery'.<sup>82</sup> The movement caught on and a year later the first government-funded London park was laid out. By this time the trend towards the reservation of public park land had already reached Australia. Recreation reserves in Britain tended to be situated on wasteland at the outer perimeter of towns. However, in newly developing Australian towns, the parks could be incorporated within the town centres in prime locations.<sup>83</sup>

### 4.3 Victorian Public Gardens

Public gardens played a distinctive role in towns providing a visual and social focus. The establishment of these gardens was closely linked with regional wealth<sup>84</sup>, such as the gold mining areas of the Central Highlands and north-eastern Victoria, or the rich grazing lands of the Western District. The Lands Department received many requests from sporting organizations and shire councillors for space to be set aside for public use: for the provision of recreation including parks, gardens, botanic gardens, racecourses and cricket grounds. These groups were partly motivated by an ever-growing awareness of the need for symbols of community and colonial progress<sup>85</sup>. From 1860, Assistant-Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey, Clement Hodgkinson, had assumed sole responsibility for Crown land reserves<sup>86</sup>. As he handled so many applications, Hodgkinson tended to standardise reserve size according to purpose. Thus by 1874, cricket grounds averaged 6.5 acres and recreation reserves averaged 36.7 acres<sup>87</sup>. On this basis Maryborough seems to have fared well.

Many regional towns developed their own botanic gardens, not only for acclimatisation of exotic plant species, but also for social prestige. Examples included Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Warrnambool, Kyneton, Daylesford, Malmsbury, Albury and Maryborough. However, the botanic gardens ultimately placed less emphasis on botanical knowledge and changed in character to pleasure gardens. Many had their original reservation amended to include recreation and even camping. Features common to many of the botanic and municipal parks included elaborate fences and gates, conservatories, bandstands, curator's lodges and memorials. Municipal parks also provided venues for public celebrations and included popular floral displays. The tree planting in many of these gardens was influenced by the Victorian age's fascination with conifers and dark-foliaged evergreens. Dr Ferdinand Mueller, government botanist and Director of the Melbourne Botanic Gardens, supplied many of the plants in the 1860s and early 1870s.

Examples of early municipal recreation reserves in Melbourne include Albert Park (1850s), Yarra Park and the MCG (1853), Carlton Gardens (1858), Fitzroy Gardens (1860), Flagstaff Gardens (1862), Treasury Gardens (1867), Alma Park, St Kilda (1867), Prince's Park - Carlton (1870s), Royal Park (1870s) and Fawkner Park (1870s). The Melbourne Botanic Gardens were established in 1846. All

these gardens and reserves featured a formal avenue landscape treatment, unlike Maryborough.

In regional Victoria, among early reservations were Portland Botanic Gardens (1851), amended in 1880 to include croquet lawns and tennis courts. Geelong Botanic Gardens were also reserved in 1851. Others included Ballarat Botanical Reserve (1857), on the west of Lake Wendouree, that included sports grounds, a zoo and fish hatchery for acclimatisation purposes; Queen Victoria Park, Beechworth (1858) and Port Fairy (1859), both initially reserved for botanic gardens but later changed to include recreation including camping; Benalla (1859) for "cricketing and other purposes of public recreation"; Bendigo's Rosalind Park and Conservatory Gardens.

The best recreation reserve for comparative purposes to Prince's Park, Maryborough is Benalla Gardens, having a similar range of features. This was designed in 1886 with an oval, ornamental gardens, tennis courts and bowling green. It also contains a grandstand (1963), rotunda (1911) and war memorial (1922). Melville Oval at Hamilton contains a 1904-9 grandstand and a war memorial, but the rotunda was relocated to the Botanic Gardens. Edinburgh Gardens, Fitzroy, contains the old Fitzroy Cricket Club grandstand (1888) and oval, together with a reconstructed timber ticket box. The parkland to the north has tennis courts, a bowling green, a bandstand and tree-lined avenues.

#### **4.4 Analysis of Prince's Park, Maryborough**

The request for land to be set aside for a recreation reserve was made early in Maryborough's history, in fact only three years after the discovery of gold. This location has remained close to the commercial centre of the city. The Cricket Club began using the former mining area in 1857 with the council's approval, although the reservation for public recreation was not officially gazetted until 1863. The original area proved to be too small and the area was gradually increased by an additional 52 acres, officially gazetted in 1895. The reserve was fenced before 1863 and the council had already spent £50 on trees planted in wire guards.<sup>88</sup> Sixty-two trees were personally selected by Clement Hodgkinson in 1869 and forwarded from Melbourne for planting.<sup>89</sup> Hodgkinson was an influential figure in the Crown Lands & Survey Department, not only being responsible for the approval of public land reservations, but also involved in the design and layout of several public gardens in Melbourne. These included Fitzroy Gardens, Treasury Gardens, Flagstaff Gardens, Carlton Gardens and Alma Park, St Kilda. Hodgkinson shared von Mueller's interest in conifers, as these species made up almost half of the trees selected. Ten of the seventeen species on the list also occurred in Hodgkinson's 1867 plan for the Treasury Gardens. (Refer to a copy of the list in Appendix C.) Little is known of the early tree locations, but it is reasonable to assume that they were planted around the playing area and the reserve boundaries.

The 1887 lithograph (*Figure 2.1*) indicated that the cricket ground had been formalised as an oval and that both the oval and the park perimeter were ringed with conifers. Nothing is known of any grand plan or design of the park layout although the conifers made a strong statement. The position of the oval determined the location of surrounding facilities and parkland. It may also have influenced the position of the main drain on the western side. The later construction of Lake Victoria also influenced available recreation space and necessitated construction of the Blackman's Lead drain diversion. The use of prisoners to excavate the lake and the Blackman's Lead drain may have been the last use of prison labour in Victoria for large-scale public works.

An influence on the design and layout of the park came with the short visit by William Guilfoyle. The visit at the request of council was made when the excavation of the lake had commenced in 1883. Guilfoyle suggested path layouts and recommended tree and shrub species, yet no evidence of his work remains. The area between the entrance and the main drain had begun to be developed into a formal garden with shrubs and pathways from 1908, following the appointment of Ernst Swansson as curator of the Borough. Trees now dominate much of this area, while lawns have replaced the shrub beds and the original design has been lost. Planting around the lake by 1928 consisted of an unbroken line of

Weeping Willows backed by Monterey Pines. This planting may have been modified in the late 1930s by Hugh Linaker's beautification plan<sup>90</sup>, although the plan was not formally adopted until 1946<sup>91</sup>.

Linaker was employed by the State Lunacy Department from 1912 and was responsible for design and maintenance of all lunatic asylums including Mont Park, Kew, Sunbury, Ararat and Beechworth. He was appointed State Superintendent of Parks and Gardens in the 1930s and died at Hawthorn in 1938. His work in areas outside the Department included Buchan Caves (1929), the Shrine of Remembrance precinct (1933), the Yarra Boulevard beautification scheme, Yarra Bend National Park and the Pioneer Women's Memorial. Other public parks and gardens having Linaker's involvement were at Alexandra Gardens (Ararat), Stawell, Castlemaine Botanic Gardens, Lake Sambell Reserve (Beechworth), Herbert Gardens (Box Hill), Fairview Park (Hawthorn) and Lake Augusta (1938). His works included plantations for the town of Yallourn and the Geelong Road, advising on the gardens at "Stonnington", Malvern, for the Nicholas family at "Carn Brae", Hawthorn and "Burnham Beeches", Sherbrooke.<sup>92</sup>

One of Linaker's "signature trees" was Lombardy Poplar (*Populus nigra 'Italica'*) and these occur around the lake, together with White Fastigate Poplar (*P. alba 'Pyramidalis'*). His plans commonly used a mix of native trees and exotic species; this approach is evident in the planting around the old fire brigade training track at the southern end of the park and to the north end of Prince's Oval. The grove of Red Ironbark (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*) between Jubilee Oval and the tennis courts could also be part of his design for the park. It is not known if copies of the plan are still in existence.

Many of the features of Prince's Park could be found in other public gardens of a similar period. The original cast iron gates and palisade fence were copied from the Exhibition Gardens in Melbourne. Central Park, Stawell had a similar grand entrance that still survives intact. The band rotunda was a common feature of late nineteenth century public gardens and reserves. However, few nineteenth century or early twentieth century rotundas and band rotundas remain in Victoria. The Maryborough example is about the ninth oldest after the Fitzroy Gardens (1864, 1873), Beechworth - Town Hall Gardens and cemetery (1876), Rushworth (1888), Walhalla (1896), Buninyong Botanical Gardens (1901) and Hamilton Botanic Gardens (1904). Many towns possessed stone-lined drains, including Ballarat, Maldon and St Arnaud. The best example is the stone-lined Bendigo Creek where it passes through Rosalind Park, Bendigo, and is spanned by three ornate bridges dating from 1882. The lined channels in St Arnaud's Queen Mary Gardens were constructed later during the 1920s-1930s depression. The Prince's Park bridge at the main entry is similar in construction to the Bendigo bridges. Lake Victoria may have been influenced by Lake Wendouree, Ballarat and the small lake at Carisbrook, but was certainly intended to match the dimensions of Lake Weeroona at Bendigo. The Phillips Gardens also possessed a small lake, as did the botanic gardens at Castlemaine, Malmsbury, St Arnaud and the Alexandra Gardens at Ararat.

The original timber grandstand was moved from the market square, Maryborough, to Prince's Park in the 1860s. This building had a resemblance to the Tarnagulla cricket pavilion erected in the public reserve in 1882. The new grandstand erected at Prince's Park in 1895 was based on the cost of the construction of a similar structure at Lakeside Oval, South Melbourne. The South Melbourne grandstand was designed by Melbourne architect, W E Wells, but was destroyed by fire in 1926. The architect for the Prince's Park grandstand was Thomas Watts and Sons, also from Melbourne. Thomas Watts commenced practice after arriving in Victoria in 1853, forming various partnerships with Messrs Russell, Pritchard and Smith before practicing alone after 1870. His sons were admitted to the firm in 1883. He was one of the founders of the Victorian Institute of Architects and President in 1884-5. Six buildings designed by the firm are on the Victorian Heritage Register; these include Bontharambo Homestead (1858), CSR Complex, Yarraville (1872), Baptist Church, Newtown (1876), Cramond House, Carlton (1888), Dalmeny House, Carlton and Malvern House, Glen Iris (1891-2). Also designed were the Baptist Churches at Prahran and East Melbourne, the Sands & McDougall Warehouse in Spencer Street, Melbourne, together with both churches, banks, office buildings, private residences and the Gordon Institute<sup>93</sup>.

Thomas Watts was employed by the Collingwood Football Club to design a new grandstand for Victoria Park. The Mayor of Collingwood and two colleagues visited Maryborough in 1908 and had been much impressed by the grandstand, declaring that "there was no other equal to it in the metropolis except at the MCG"<sup>94</sup>. The foundation stone for the Collingwood grandstand was laid in 1909 and building was completed later that year. It was demolished in 1966. The design for Victoria Park is almost identical to the Prince's Park grandstand, particularly with the elaborate timber eaves decoration (compare *Figures 2.4 and Figure 4.1*). By contrast, the timber balustrade treatment is much simpler in the later building.

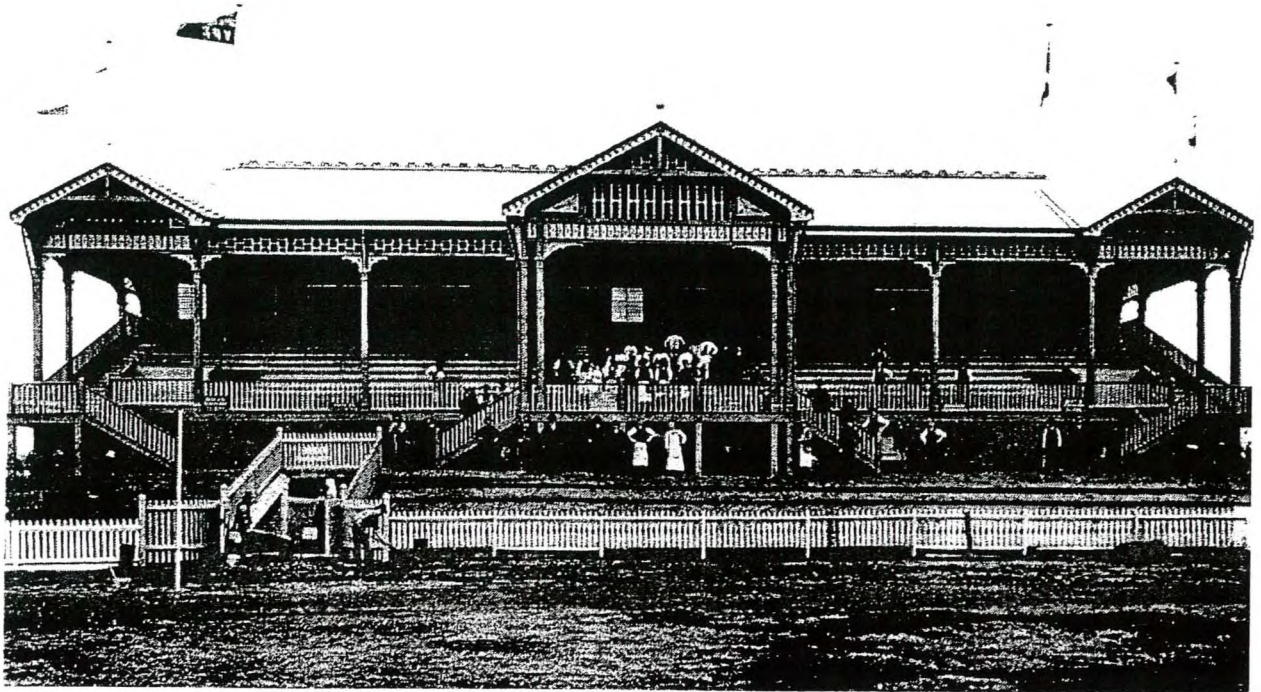


Figure 4.1 1909 Grandstand at Victoria Park, Collingwood (source: McFarlane & Roberts, *Collingwood at Victoria Park*, p.37, Lothian, 1999.)

The Prince's Park grandstand has a large undercroft or storage space that puts the spectator seating high above the oval, whereas the Collingwood version was not raised so far off the ground. The grandstand at Central Park, Stawell was built in a similar manner to Maryborough. The Queen Elizabeth Oval at Bendigo has a surviving grandstand (1903) with decorative cast iron lace to the eaves but the stand has no under-storage and a low profile by comparison to Maryborough. While the lower section of the Prince's Park grandstand has been modified in recent times, and an unfortunate addition has been built on the southern end, it is of state importance for the nature of its timber decoration.<sup>95</sup> Surviving late nineteenth and early twentieth century grandstands include Tarnagulla (1882), Fitzroy Cricket Ground (1888), Geelong Racing Club (1891) although moved from the Showgrounds in 1907, Baarmutha Park, Beechworth (1896), Ballarat City Oval (1898), Queen Elizabeth Oval, Bendigo (1901), Hamilton (1902-9), Kingston (1902) built at Smeaton and moved in 1922, Minyip (1908) and Benalla Showgrounds (1912-13, 1918). The Maryborough grandstand is the third oldest grandstand still remaining in its original location.

Other structures contained within the reserve that have historic importance include the main drain, the band rotunda (listed by the National Trust) and the Municipal Olympic Swimming Pool, listed on the Victorian Heritage Register. The timber ticket office is a rare survivor of this type of structure in Victoria<sup>96</sup> and is urgently in need of restoration. Similarly, the cast iron gates and palisade fence are an

uncommon design. Only a section of the original fence, from which the Maryborough fence was copied, survives at the north-western corner of the Carlton Gardens. Nothing is known at this stage regarding the designer or construction of the Art Deco men's toilet block north of the grandstand and this could be the subject of further research.

In terms of social importance, Prince's Park has been host to the Highland Gathering since 1859. This is claimed to be the longest continuous sporting event in Australia, having first been held in 1857. By comparison, Stawell's Easter Gift dates from 1877 but has only been held at Central Park since 1898. The oval and surrounding areas have hosted community events and sporting occasions continuously throughout their history.

Peter Watts lamented in 1983 that public parks had become dumping grounds for memorials and toilet blocks along with a decline in the horticultural enthusiasm of the late Victorian times.<sup>97</sup> Prince's Park has suffered this fate with progressive intrusions such as the caravan park, the amenities block over the main drain and the football clubrooms against the grandstand. There is also a sense of uncoordinated planning of facilities such as the netball court, cricket nets, security fencing and parking areas that gives the recreation reserve a fragmented appearance. The downgrading of the entrance gardens through the removal of shrubberies, pathways and a pedestrian bridge has also diminished the significance of the park's setting.

#### 4.5 Applicable Assessment Criteria

The following criteria are those used by Heritage Victoria (HV) and the Australian Heritage Commission (AHC).

- HV A Importance in the course, or pattern, of Victoria's cultural history.
- AHC A3 Importance in exhibiting unusual richness or diversity of cultural landscapes or features.  
*i.e. remnants of Victorian, Edwardian and Inter-War landscape elements.*
- AHC A4 Importance for their association with events, developments or cultural phases which have had a significant role in the human occupation and evolution of Victoria.  
*i.e. strong associations with the Gold Rush of the 1850s.*
- HV B Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Victoria's cultural history.  
*i.e. rare examples of a timber Ticket office, timber decoration to the grandstand and the 1940s Olympic Pool complex.*
- AHC B1 Importance for rare endangered or uncommon flora, fauna, communities, ecosystems, natural landscapes or phenomena, as a wilderness.  
*i.e. rare example of a Phoenician Juniper and two remnant indigenous trees, a Yellow Gum and a Grey Box, plus a population of rare Native Catfish in Lake Victoria.*
- AHC C2 Importance for information contributing to a wider understanding of the history of human occupation of Victoria.
- HV D Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of Victoria's cultural places.  
*i.e. public recreation reserve.*
- AHC D2 Importance of demonstrating the principal characteristics of the range of human activities in the Victorian environment (including the way of life custom, process, land - use, function,

design or technique).

*i.e. the changing nature of recreation pursuits over time.*

- AHC E1 Importance for a community for aesthetic characteristics held in high esteem or otherwise valued by the community.  
*i.e. Lake Victoria and surrounds, the band rotunda and setting.*
- HV F Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.  
*i.e. timber decoration to the grandstand.*
- AHC F1 Importance for their technical, creative design or artistic excellence, innovation or achievement.  
*i.e. timber decoration to the grandstand, band rotunda and cast iron entrance gates.*
- HV G Strong or special associations with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.  
*i.e. Highland Society and sporting clubs.*
- AHC G1 Importance as places highly values by a community for reasons of religious, spiritual, symbolic, cultural, educational or social associations.
- AHC H1 Importance for their close association with individuals whose activities have been significant within the history of the nation, state or region.  
*i.e. Hodgkinson, Guilfoyle, Linaker.*

## 4.6 Statement of Significance

The Prince's Park recreation reserve is historically and socially significant as one of Victoria's oldest recreation reserves. It has long served as a public focal point and meeting place for a wide range of sporting contests, special community events and celebrations as well as for passive recreation. It demonstrates the social aspirations and development of the community from the gold rush era through to the end of the twentieth century. It was first used as a cricket ground in 1857 after mining holes had been filled and the ground levelled. The Highland Gathering has been held around New Year's Day at the Park since 1859, and is claimed to be the longest continuously-held sporting event in Australia. The introduction of other sports included football (1872), rowing (1887), cycling (1897), tennis (1926), hockey and netball (1938). The Maryborough Fire Brigade has had a long association with the development in the Park of three separate training tracks for training and competitions from the 1890s. The Park has been the venue for various jubilee celebrations, band recitals, concerts, military parades, charity carnivals and agricultural shows. More recently, diverse events such as the RACV Energy Breakthrough and gold panning competitions have been introduced. Coronation Park was formed in 1953 when the community participated in tree planting to commemorate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. The Maryborough Lions' Club has been active in promoting the development of picnic facilities and playgrounds.

The 1895 grandstand is of architectural significance as an early example of the use of ornate timber decoration at a time when such work normally incorporated cast iron. The grandstand is the only remaining example of a recreation facility designed by the important Melbourne architectural firm, Thomas Watts & Sons, whose later grandstand at Victoria Park, Collingwood (1908), was demolished in 1966. Six buildings designed by this firm are on the Victorian Heritage Register. The Art Deco Municipal Swimming Complex, designed by local architect EJ Peck in 1939 and officially opened by Sir Frank Beaurepaire in 1940, is also of architectural significance and is included on the Victorian Heritage Register (H1319).

Prince's Park is historically and aesthetically significant for its association with three important landscape designers in Victoria, Clement Hodgkinson, William Guilfoyle and Hugh Linaker although their influence and original design content is now reduced. The Park contains a collection of 1880-1910 buildings and structures that is now rare in Victorian reserves, with no other reserve in Victoria having a similar collection. These include the 1885 cast iron entry gates and fencing with gate posts modified in 1926 for a World War I memorial, the 1895 grandstand that is the third oldest grandstand still remaining in its original location and one of only six surviving nineteenth century grandstands in Victoria, and a band rotunda (1905) designed by the long-serving Town Clerk, HN Phillips, to commemorate Maryborough's golden jubilee, the ninth oldest remaining bandstand in Victoria and an outstanding example of the work of the local Robinson's Soho foundry. Also of historical and aesthetic significance is a rare timber ticket office (1909), one of two such structures in Victoria, and the stone-lined stormwater drains (1881, 1885, 1886) spanned by an attractive steel lattice bridge (1909).

Lake Victoria occupies the central section of the Park and is a significant landscape feature. It was constructed in 1883-87 by prison labour and altered in 1982. The remains of its original nineteenth century planting scheme of Weeping Willows at the water's edge, backed by three rows of Monterey Pines, still form an attractive landscape. Other landscape elements of aesthetic significance are the row of Dutch Elms framing the rotunda, the row of elms lining the east side of the main drain and Holyrood Street, plus the Monterey Pines to the eastern and south-western boundaries.

Prince's Park is of scientific (botanical) significance for the occurrence of Victoria's only recorded Phoenician Juniper (*Juniperus phoenicea*). This tree north of the grandstand, and an Illawarra Flame Tree (*Brachychiton acerifolius*) near the entry, has been included on the National Trust Significant Tree Register. More recently (c1988), three Red Cedars (*Toona australis*) were planted south of the

grandstand after being propagated from a tree in the Phillips Gardens; this species is rarely propagated in Victoria. Another uncommon tree is a fine specimen of a hybrid Bhutan Cypress (*Cupressus torulosa* x *lusitanica*), growing south of the rotunda lawn. The Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) and Yellow Gum (*E. leucoxylon*) in the north-west section of the Park are significant remnant indigenous trees. There is a fine stand of Red-Flowering Ironbark (*E. sideroxylon* 'Rosea') north of the tennis courts.

Prince's Park is of scientific (biological) significance for the presence of a breeding population of the rare Native Catfish that was released into Lake Victoria in 1982. The fish are listed under the Flora And Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 and are classified as vulnerable.



## 5.0 CONSERVATION POLICY

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### 5.1 Introduction

The following conservation policy has been developed on the basis of the preceding assessment of the cultural significance of the key heritage elements within Prince's Park. The intention of the conservation policy is to provide direction and guidelines for the future use, care, management and conservation of the park and the significant elements associated with it. It should form the basis of consideration of future uses and any works that may be proposed, and should be adopted by the Shire of Central Goldfields as a policy document.

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

### 5.2 Influences on Policy Development

#### 5.2.1 User Requirements

The requirement for a conservation management plan for Prince's Park arose from a successful application by the Central Goldfields Shire for a grant from the Crown Land Reserves Improvement Program. The preparation of an approved plan was a condition of the grant imposed by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment. Council has also obtained funding from other sources including grants from Sport and Recreation Victoria for various works within the Park.

The principal component of the Council's funding application relates to the major enlargement and upgrading of Prince's Oval. This was prompted by the desire to attract major sporting events while improving safety conditions. The implications of the proposed works are that the oval widening will encroach into Lake Victoria, not only changing the shoreline but also potentially disturbing the breeding grounds of the native catfish.

Other components of the funding application relate to improving the Park frontage along park Road and to generally improving sporting facilities. The consultants were also requested to consider siting options for a proposed sound shell and to comment on a proposed litter trap to the main drain.

The Council's underlying philosophy is to continue to develop and promote Prince's Park for both active and passive recreation.

#### 5.2.2 Physical Condition of the Park

The condition of the various elements within the Park have been previously discussed in Chapter 3, Physical Survey. Prince's Park attracts a high proportion of the Parks and Garden Department's annual maintenance budget and the general condition of the grounds is good. However, the maintenance appears to be concentrated on sporting facilities and there are some major concerns relating to historic fabric as listed below:

- Ticket office: this structure does not receive a high level of use and is urgently in need of maintenance to prevent further deterioration to its fabric.
- Stone-lined drains: repairs are required to prevent further loss of stone lining, caused by the erosive powers of large volumes storm water, and to remove invasive weeds.

- Tree decline: urgent attention is needed to determine the cause of decline to the group of trees south of the rotunda lawn. The use of non-irrigated grassed areas for major event parking poses a threat of compacted root zones for existing trees. Tree replacement strategies are required to prevent a loss of historic character, particularly around the lake and boundary planting.
- Vandalism: this is a growing threat to the Park's fabric. Current problems include damage to light fixtures and wheel ruts in irrigated lawns caused by unauthorised vehicles.

### **5.2.3 Statutory Requirements**

The following state and local government acts and planning controls have been taken into account in the development of this conservation policy.

The Council has been appointed as Committee of Management for the Prince's Park recreation reserve under the Crown Land Reserves Act. Regulations for the care, protection and management of the reserve for public recreation were gazetted in 1938 and further amended in 1964.

The Heritage Act 1995 applies to historic places included on the Victorian Heritage Register. This currently applies to the Municipal Olympic Swimming Complex and places a heritage overlay on the local planning scheme. Note that the whole of Prince's Park has currently been recommended for inclusion on the Register; Heritage Victoria has issued a draft registration for comment.

The Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 has relevance for the population of native catfish in Lake Victoria.

## **5.3 Policy Statements**

### **5.3.1 Prince's Park**

The following general policies apply to the Prince's Park reserve, and are intended to provide an overall framework within the specific policies for individual elements.

*1. Those factors which have been identified in the statement of significance as contributing to significance should be considered in, and form the basis of, all future works.*

In undertaking any maintenance or conservation works, or works to adapt the place to new uses, consideration should be given to the assessed significance of the place and the impact of the works on that significance.

*2. All future conservation and adaptation works which affect elements of significance should be carried out having regard for the principles of the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter) as amended.*

The guidelines contained in the Burra Charter should be used in determining the acceptability of any proposed works or adaptive uses. Specific conservation objectives should include the retention and enhancement of existing cultural heritage values, the retention of identity and its contribution to a sense of place, the retention of as much significant fabric and as many attributes as possible, restoration of significant fabric or elements, and removal of intrusive accretions.

*3. Those elements identified as being of significance should be conserved in accordance with the specific conservation policies identified in this Conservation Plan.*

Specific conservation policies have been provided for elements of individual significance and these policies should be observed when works are undertaken. These policies allow for appropriate adaptive re-use and alteration of individual elements and spaces.

### 5.3.2 Zones

Prince's Park is physically divided into three roughly-parallel north-south zones, and these roughly correspond with a decrease in significance from west to east. Refer to the accompanying Zoning Plan in Appendix C.

- *Western zone* - includes the Park Road frontage and entrances, the stone-lined drains, the hockey ground, main oval, rotunda lawn and south-western parkland. This zone contains the greatest number of significant elements and therefore the most sensitive areas where development must be carefully controlled. The use of the oval as a recreation space dates from 1857 while the collection of structures is representative of the period of development from 1880 to 1910. The specific conservation policies are aimed at retaining this character.
- *Central zone* - includes Lake Victoria and its immediate surrounds, the swimming pool complex and the caravan park. This zone is important for its aesthetic contribution to the Park. Note that the caravan park is leased to private operators; it is therefore difficult to control policies in this area until a new lease agreement is negotiated.
- *Eastern zone* - includes the playground, artificial stream, parking area, Jubilee Oval and the tennis courts. This zone has the least number of significant elements and therefore has the most potential for the siting of new developments.

### 5.3.3 Elements of Primary Significance

Elements and areas of primary significance are those which contribute in a fundamental way to an understanding of the cultural significance of the park, and are predominantly intact in building form and fabric, and/or are particularly demonstrative of the original design concept in regard to form and fabric.

Elements of primary significance include the following:

- Entrance gates, war memorial and iron palisade fencing, ticket office, stone-lined drains, main entry bridge.
- Grandstand, but excluding the football clubrooms.
- Band rotunda and adjacent elm trees.
- Prince's Oval.
- Swimming pool complex.
- Lake Victoria and its embankment, but excluding the islands.
- National Trust Significant Trees: Phoenician Juniper (*Juniperus phoenicea*), Illawarra Flame Tree (*Brachychiton acerifolius*).
- Red Cedars (*Toona australis*).
- Remnant trees: Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*), Yellow Gum (*E. leucoxylon*).
- The population of Freshwater Catfish in the lake.

## Specific Policies

### *Entrance gates & Fence*

- Conserve the fabric of the main entrance gates, granite memorial posts and adjacent cast iron fencing as necessary.
- Take paint samples to ascertain the original colours before repainting ironwork.
- Maintain and repaint lettering to the memorials as required.
- Provide interpretative signage to explain the origin of the original gates and fence.
- Any extension of fencing to the north should not attempt to replicate the iron palisade fence; new work should be able to be clearly differentiated by a casual observer.

### *Ticket office*

- A detailed conservation plan and structure report should be prepared to assist in the conservation of this significant building, including reconstruction of missing features and original colour schemes.
- Maintenance, preservation or restoration works must be carried out as a matter of urgency. Maintenance items include replacement of glass to windows, restoration of three of the four ticket windows, re-stumping, repairs or replacement of base weatherboards, painting, roof plumbing and removal of climbing plants.
- Potential use includes continuing its original function as a ticket office, plus an interpretation display of tickets and sales.

### *Main drain & Blackman's Lead Arm*

- Conserve the fabric of the stone-lined drains, including repair of damage caused by floods, tree roots and other causes.
- Remove weeds on a regular basis, not less than every 3 months, and carry out works as necessary to prevent the incursion of tree roots.
- Remove areas of concrete covering the lining of the drains, where possible, without compromising the integrity of surfaces.
- Repairs to walling or channels, or any new works, should be made with material and workmanship similar to existing; the use of concrete other than for joints, either trowelled, coloured, off-form or patterned, should be avoided.
- Further construction of buildings or structures over the drain should not be permitted, excluding the reconstruction of a pedestrian bridge to the entrance gardens. If the 1977 pavilion becomes redundant, then it should be demolished and should not be replaced in this location.
- Provide interpretative signage to explain the history of the drains.

### *Main entry bridge*

- Conserve the fabric of the bridge and repaint at appropriate intervals.
- Take paint samples to determine the original colour scheme.
- Replace the hollow steel balustrade handrails with a more appropriate detail.
- Carry out research to determine the original appearance of the light at the eastern end and reinstate.
- Vehicular traffic should be kept to a minimum to prevent structural deterioration.
- Provide a small plaque showing the date of construction.

### *Grandstand*

- A detailed conservation plan and structure report should be prepared to assist in the conservation of this significant building, including reconstruction of missing features and original colour schemes.
- Provide interpretative signage to explain the history of the grandstand, including the original structure and the later Collingwood grandstand designed by the same architects.

#### *Oval*

- Retain Prince's Oval as a ground for active recreation and for use by community clubs and societies.
- Enlargement is permitted, providing there is no encroachment into Lake Victoria. Any modifications must include a perimeter spectator embankment, or terracing, while respecting the location of the grandstand, the rotunda, and the southern elms. Allowance must also be made for replacement tree planting to the lake embankment and retention of the lake perimeter walking track. The existing concrete posts in front of the grandstand should be conserved (refer to 5.3.4).
- Regular maintenance inspections should be scheduled for the elms, not less than annually, and a replacement policy should be developed for the trees in the event of damage, death, or when maintenance costs exceed amenity value.
- Any works in association with increasing the size of the oval must be subject to approval by a heritage consultant (or Heritage Victoria if this portion of Prince's Park is included on the Victorian Heritage Register) and the relevant section of DNRE.

#### *Band rotunda*

- Conserve the fabric of the band rotunda, including roofing, flooring, columns, balustrades and steps; repaint previously painted surfaces at appropriate intervals.
- Take paint samples to ascertain the original colours.
- Remove the concrete based seat.

#### *Pool complex*

- Retain and conserve the pool complex.
- Develop a replacement strategy for vegetation, including the replanting of the Chinese Hawthorn hedge.
- Refer to Heritage Victoria for list of works exempted from permits.

#### *Lake Victoria*

- Conserve the lake including the embankment and shoreline. Maintenance includes removal of weeds from margins and water, control of reeds, prevention of erosion, removal of tree suckers from the embankment, any work associated with maintaining a water supply or cleaning of the overflow.
- Remove weedy species of trees, shrubs and grasses from the islands.
- Any works associated with the lake, including maintenance, should be planned to cause minimum disturbance to the habitat of the Freshwater Catfish. Any such works require prior approval from the relevant section of DNRE.

#### *Phoenician Juniper*

- Maintain the tree (*Juniperus phoenicea*) as long as possible and protect from damage to its surrounding root zone by mowers and vehicles (refer also to Section 5.4). Maintenance includes regular inspections, at not less than annual intervals, plus the removal of branches that may constitute safety hazards.
- Strike cuttings from the tree and grow replacement seedlings under nursery conditions in the event of death, substantial damage or removal of the tree.

#### *Illawarra Flame Tree*

- Maintain the tree (*Brachychiton acerifolius*) as long as possible and protect from damage to its surrounding root zone by vehicles (refer also to Section 5.4). Maintenance includes regular inspections, at not less than annual intervals, plus the removal of branches that may constitute safety hazards.
- Provide a National Trust Significant Tree label similar to that of the Phoenician Juniper.
- Strike cuttings from the tree and grow replacement seedlings under nursery conditions in the event of death, substantial damage or removal of the tree.

#### *Red Cedars*

- Maintain the trees and protect from damage to their surrounding root zone by vehicles and pedestrians (refer also to Section 5.4).
- No nails or other fixing devices are permitted to be placed in the trunks for any reason.
- Provide labels to identify the trees, stating botanical name, common name and source.

#### *Remnant Eucalypts*

- Maintain the Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) and Yellow Gum (*E. leucoxylon*) as long as possible and protect from damage to their surrounding root zones by mowers and vehicles (refer also to Section 5.4). Maintenance includes regular inspections, at not less than annual intervals, plus the removal of branches that may constitute safety hazards.
- Provide labels to identify the trees, stating botanical name, common name, approximate age and note that the trees are indigenous to the region.

#### *Freshwater Catfish*

- Refer to *Lake Victoria* policies above plus the Ecology Section of DNRE for policies relating to protection and interpretation.

### **5.3.4 Elements of Contributory Significance**

Elements and areas of contributory significance are of a secondary nature in the understanding of the cultural significance of the site. While they contribute to the overall significance of the park, they are not of individual distinction with regard to original plan form, fabric or function.

Areas or items of contributory significance include the following:

- Tweeddale entrance gate posts.
- Main entrance garden.
- Fence posts to the grandstand enclosure.
- Parkland south of Prince's Oval.
- Concrete horse trough in Park Road.
- Dutch Elm (*Ulmus x hollandica*) row west and north of the hockey field.
- Hybrid Bhutan Cypress (*Cupressus torulosa x lusitanica*)
- Red Ironbarks (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*) north of the tennis courts.
- Perimeter trees to Lake Victoria.
- Pines to eastern and southern boundaries.
- Art Deco men's toilet block.
- The rotunda lawn.

### **Specific Policies**

#### *Tweeddale entrance gate posts*

- Conserve the fabric of the gate posts as necessary together with the cast iron post near the bridge. Provide kerbs or other alternatives as protection from vehicle damage.
- Take paint samples to ascertain the original colours before repainting ironwork.
- Additional research is required to locate the two remaining posts replaced at the main entry by the granite memorials.

#### *Entrance gardens*

- Conserve the fabric of the stone garden edge east of the main drain.

- Reconstruct garden beds to the perimeter of lawns and plant with shrubs appropriate to the Edwardian era.
- Reinststate gravel pathways to the southern section and the pedestrian bridge over the main drain.
- Replace the bluestone retaining walls to each side of the main entry pathway with local sandstone matching the appropriate section of the main drain side walls.
- Provide labels to identify tree species.
- Plant trees and shrubs to screen the 1979 clubrooms and access ramp from Park Road.

*Fence posts to the grandstand enclosure*

- Conserve the fabric of the concrete posts including repairs where necessary. Repairs include removal of rust from exposed reinforcing prior to reconstruction of damaged surfaces. The posts should not be painted.

*Parkland south of Prince's Oval*

- Conserve the rotunda lawn as a multi-purpose space.
- Retain the fire brigade track and the asphalt surface if a use can be found for it; alternatively, remove the asphalt surface and replace it with grass and a suitable concrete edge strip or markers to identify its original location.
- Provide interpretative signage to explain the history of the track.
- Re-establish an avenue of deciduous trees alongside the track to highlight its location, but retain the two Carob Bean trees.
- Use of the southern grassed area for occasional parking is permitted providing there is minimal compaction damage to tree root zones; this should be reassessed on an annual basis.
- Extend the park irrigation system to this area to assist in maintenance of trees and grass.
- Develop a replacement strategy for the trees.
- Provide labels for unusual tree species (e.g. *Cupressus torulosa* var. *corneyana*).
- Carry out additional research in the council's records for evidence of Linaker's involvement in the planting design for this area.

*Concrete horse trough in Park Road*

- Remove paint from the drinking trough, remove soil and maintain in good condition.

*Dutch Elm row west and north of the hockey field*

- Maintain the elms and develop a replacement program. Protect trees from damage to their surrounding root zones by mowers and vehicles (refer also to Section 5.4). Maintenance includes regular inspections, at not less than annual intervals, plus the removal of branches that may constitute safety hazards.
- Remove the young Silky Oak (*Grevillea robusta*) near the pavilion and replace with a Dutch elm (*Ulmus x hollandica*).

*Hybrid Bhutan Cypress*

- Maintain the tree (*Cupressus torulosa x lusitanica*) as long as possible and protect from damage to its surrounding root zone by vehicles (refer also to Section 5.4). Maintenance includes regular inspections, at not less than annual intervals, plus the removal of branches that may constitute safety hazards.
- Strike cuttings from the tree and grow replacement seedlings under nursery conditions in the event of death, substantial damage or removal of the tree.

*Red Ironbarks north of the tennis courts*

- Maintain the grove of trees (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*) and replace as required with the same species.

*Perimeter trees to Lake Victoria*

- Maintain the remnants of the three rows of Monterey Pine around the lake.
- Replant up to three rows of pines where space permits, using a single species.
- Develop a strategy to replace the existing mix of species to the lake perimeter. This shall include a row of a single species of deciduous tree around the lake edge, to replace the original scheme of Weeping Willows.

*Pines to eastern and southern boundaries*

- Maintain the remnants of the boundary planting of pines, including Monterey Pines, Canary Island Pines and nearby Aleppo Pines.
- Develop a planting strategy to replace missing trees and to replace senescent trees where appropriate.

(AGING)

*Art Deco men's toilet block*

- Conserve the fabric of the toilet block.
- Further research is required to establish date of construction and the designer.

### 5.3.5 Elements of Little or No Significance

Buildings, elements or areas of little or no significance include:

- areas that were originally minor in nature and contribute little to the cultural significance of the park,
- areas that have been so altered that they have lost any significance they might otherwise have had,
- later additions and elements that may be considered intrusive in their form and siting.

Areas and items of little or no significance include the following:

- Chain wire fencing to the perimeter of the park plus internal dividing fences.
- Northern road bridge at Tweedale gates
- Footbridges to the rear of the grandstand and to the south-western corner.
- Oval fencing excluding the section with concrete posts.
- Cricket nets.
- Scoreboard and coaches boxes.
- New fire brigade track, judges box and tower.
- Concrete tank and pump shed.
- Hockey ground.
- Jubilee oval and clubrooms.
- Tennis courts and clubhouse.
- Playground, mounding, gold panning stream, bridge, toilet block and barbeque shelter.
- Coronation Park.
- Female toilet block to the rear of the grandstand.
- Ticket offices near the Tweedale and Hubble gates.
- Islands in the lake and the wharf at the southern end.
- Roads, pathways and parking areas.
- Lawns or grassed areas other than the rotunda lawn.
- General tree planting other than previously listed.
- Seats, picnic tables, barbeque facilities and shelters, bluestone fireplaces, rubbish bins, drinking fountains, light fixtures, signage.



Elements considered intrusive are listed as follows:

- 1979 football clubrooms and rear access ramp.
- 1977 Silver Jubilee pavilion over the main drain.



- Caravan park.
- Netball court.
- Pine log barriers.
- Recycled plastic bollards.

### **Specific Policies**

#### *Perimeter fencing*

- Avoid the use of “mock heritage” fencing.

#### *Northern road bridge*

- New balustrades should not be a “copy” of the main entry bridge; the balustrade design to the pedestrian bridge in the south-western corner is a suitable alternative.

#### *Oval fencing*

- The current style of fencing with ball-topped galvanised steel posts should be retained or matched in any extensions.

#### *Scoreboard*

- The scoreboard should be replaced with a design appropriate to the Edwardian character of the precinct.

#### *New fire brigade training track*

- Retain the fire brigade training track and its associated facilities.

#### *Jubilee Oval*

- A tree replacement policy and planting strategy should be developed for the oval surrounds and the eastern side of the park.

#### *Tennis courts*

- Develop a planting policy to screen the western side of the tennis courts.

#### *Coronation Park*

- The general planting should be recorded and the original planting theme retained.
- Missing trees should be replanted and other trees requiring replacement should be replaced with the same species and cultivars.

#### *Lake islands and wharf*

- Remove weed species from the islands.
- Remove the wharf if it serves no practical purpose.

#### *Roads, pathways and parking areas*

- Rationalise the number of roads to minimise vehicle intrusion into the park and to give priority to pedestrians.

#### *Lawns or grassed areas*

- Extend the irrigation system to include the area north of Prince's Oval and the south-western corner.

#### *General planting*

- Develop planting policies to ensure that the general character is retained or enhanced. Conifers and deciduous trees are preferred for the western and Central zones.

*1979 football clubrooms*

- Provide screen planting to reduce visual impact from the west and south.
- Colour schemes should be sympathetic to the grandstand colours.

*1977 Silver Jubilee Pavilion*

- Remove the Silver Jubilee Pavilion. Any new structure should not be built over the main drain, although a pedestrian bridge is permitted.

*Caravan park*

- Remove the caravan park when the current lease expires. Restore the area to the park for use as passive recreation areas.
- Conserve the rows of Monterey Pines and Dutch Elms and protect from damage to trunks and to their surrounding root zones. A tree replacement policy and planting strategy should be established for these trees.

*Pine log barriers and recycled plastic bollards*

- Replace pine log barriers with bollards where barriers are essential and where improved vehicle security cannot be provided at park entries.
- Bollards should be constructed of materials that suit the character of their surroundings. Square section timber posts with a simple chamfered top, either painted or unpainted, should be used in lieu of round treated pine bollards or "mock heritage" plastic bollards.

### 5.3.2 Use

*Future use of the spaces and structures in the precinct should have regard for those factors that have been identified in the statements of significance as contributing to their significance, and should not detract from the identified cultural significance of the place.*

#### *1. General Parkland*

Prince's Park was initially reserved for public recreation, and it has continued to retain that role. It has a strong association with the community, evolving to meet its changing needs. The grounds retain some late Victorian and early Edwardian features and character, but it is still a dynamic entity and therefore change is not inappropriate. It should continue to be a place of community and civic focus, while protecting and enhancing the components that give it significance. The park should be maintained as an attractive environment for sporting activities and passive recreation, such as walking, picnicking, viewing trees and the lake, sitting and relaxation. Social and public events should continue to be permitted, subject to adequate controls intended to conserve the significant landscape. The partial reconstruction of the entrance gardens, with restoration of shrubs, pathways and a pedestrian bridge, would provide a suitable focus for these types of activities. The use of parkland and sporting grounds for car parking should be treated with caution as this will compact soil, reducing air and water penetration and possibly causing damage to tree roots.

#### *2. Timber Ticket Office*

- Restoration of the ticket office may encourage more use of this facility and make it viable. Other uses for this structure would include an interpretation display of tickets and sales but should avoid major changes to the fabric.

### 3. Prince's Oval

Continued safe use of the oval for sporting events with its current dimensions appears to be in conflict with current safety standards. The oval dimensions may be increased to improve safety but cannot be permitted to encroach into the lake.

#### 5.3.3 Repairs and Maintenance

*All future repairs and maintenance should be carried out in a manner consistent with the assessed significance of the place and the conservation policy.*

The approach should first be to maintain the park and its structures to ensure that the fabric does not deteriorate further, and secondly to conserve significant existing fabric. To achieve this, a cyclical inspection and maintenance program should be instigated to ensure that the grounds and buildings are kept in good condition, and that their fabric is not jeopardised. Such a program should initially concentrate on key areas, particularly the mature trees and the external fabric of buildings, and on electrical, fire and other services. In relation to the latter they should be tested regularly.

Significant fabric should be conserved in accordance with the Burra Charter and the conservation policies contained in this Conservation Plan. In particular, where existing fabric needs to be renewed, the replacement generally should match the original in design, materials and construction, unless there is strong overriding functional reasons for altering the original design or materials. If the original design needs to be altered, then the new design should match as closely as possible the original appearance and design philosophy.

Generally, day-to-day maintenance work can be carried out in accordance with the conservation policies without particular reference to a conservation specialist. However, major maintenance works or restoration works in significant areas, for example, the ticket office, should be undertaken with the advice of an appropriately qualified conservation practitioner.

#### 5.3.4 Adaptation and New Works

*1. Adaptation and new works to significant buildings, spaces or elements should not detract from the overall cultural significance of the place.*

The conservation policies contained in this report allow for adaptation of buildings or areas of primary or contributory significance. The primary conservation aim is the retention of their significance, and consequently, adaptive re-use should involve minimal physical alteration to the buildings, and they should be sympathetic to the buildings, their settings, surroundings, and their contextual relationship to each other within the park. While a building may be architecturally significant, it must nevertheless be viable (e.g., the ticket office). Therefore, changes that might be required should be made so as to avoid permanent intervention into buildings, areas and elements of primary or contributory significance. Moreover, all changes and installations to such areas should be reversible when no longer required. Works in areas of little or no significance could be more extensive without substantial loss to overall significance. For example, in buildings and spaces of primary or contributory significance, it is essential to maintain original fenestration and door openings. In the case of areas of little or no significance, there is more scope, although the preference is always for the retention of original fabric and plan form as far as possible.

*2. The character and amenity of Prince's Park must not be diminished as a result of inappropriate new work or over-development, and new elements must be introduced in a way that harmonises with and enhances the existing while avoiding discord and conflict.*

This over-arching policy brings together the conservation policy and the design philosophy wherein the underlying principle should be first to conserve significant elements and then to introduce new features to be compatible with the existing layering. It points the way forward to a revitalised future for Prince's Park in which its existing values are capitalised upon and enhanced, and where they are not put under threat as a result of the introduction of new features. This approach would reinforce and enhance the cultural significance and character of the park while responding to changes in, and differing needs of, the community for whom the park was originally intended. Therefore the approach to individually significant elements should essentially be conservation-based and, in specific instances, this might result in restoration, reinstatement or reconstruction of particular features, as defined in the Burra Charter and Australian Natural Heritage Charter while in other instances it might include replacement with like or compatible features.

3. *New works or developments should be located in areas of little or no significance.*

The intent of this policy is to minimize changes to areas of primary or contributory significance and to locate new works where they will have minimum physical and visual impact on the historic fabric. The caravan park area in the Central Zone or the playground area in the Eastern Zone (refer to Section 5.3.2) are therefore preferred locations for development. An example is that a major structure such as a sound shell should be located near the eastern playground. New facilities already exist in this location or can be developed. The mounding can provide an amphitheatre effect while minimising visual impact. Conversely, the construction of a sound shell on the south side of the rotunda (as currently proposed) would impact on areas of primary or contributory significance.

While any new works undertaken need not necessarily defer to specific existing landscape elements or built fabric, except where they might impinge upon their immediate setting, all development should nevertheless have regard for the conservation policy and what it is trying to achieve in the park as a whole. The design, siting, views, scale, mass and orientation, materials, colours and textures of new work should be carefully considered to ensure that they are compatible with their proposed setting. There is no requirement to design anything new in accordance with either a specific historical or modern style. What should be aimed at is innovation and good quality design that maintain the integrity of the existing historical landscape and which elicits a sensitive response to the context in which new elements are placed.

## **5.4 Trees, Gardens and Lawns**

### *1. Arboriculture*

Establish a maintenance program for all trees and retain an arboriculturalist experienced in working with historic landscapes to undertake an annual inspection. Major works shall be carried out by, or under the supervision of, the arboriculturalist. This shall include pruning, dead-wooding, cabling, disease control, prevention of possum damage and breaking up compaction to root zones by aeration or other approved methods. Newly planted trees should be staked for a maximum of 12 months and should be formatively pruned. Where necessary or directed, remove grass from beneath the canopies of mature trees and replace with a 100mm to 150mm layer of approved mulch. The purpose of this strategy is to minimise soil moisture and nutrient competition from grass and weeds, to reduce mower damage and to reduce compaction of the root zones caused by pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

Retain significant trees and develop (or continue with) a replacement strategy to replant over-mature or senescent trees with similar species or suitable alternatives. Replanting should be considered either when a tree dies unexpectedly, is severely damaged by storms or insect infestation (for example, Dutch elm disease) or when the maintenance costs exceed the tree's amenity value. Cuttings should be struck from rare species and grown on in a nursery in anticipation of replacement. Replacement planting strategies

should also give consideration to maintaining a balance of tree stock of different ages. Similarly, some trees may require removal to allow adjacent specimens to fully develop or to allow light penetration into garden areas to encourage growth of understory shrubs.

Develop a strategy for infill planting of trees to general areas to maintain amenity. The strategy should identify suitable locations for additional trees, giving consideration to factors such as shading, root competition, retention of vistas and ultimate size and spread. Preferences should be given to species that are known to survive in local conditions. The current balance of native and exotic species should be maintained. Policies, together with appropriate approval strategies, should be developed in relation to the planting of commemorative trees.

All works including new structures, excavation for services, or construction of new garden beds within the vicinity of mature trees shall be subject to approval by an arboriculturalist or horticulturalist experienced in working with historic landscapes, prior to commencement of such works. Similarly, the Council should establish an approval system for temporary exhibits, stalls or functions to be located within tree root zones to minimise compaction effects.

An automatic irrigation system should be introduced to reduce moisture stress to all trees during dry periods. Different water requirements should be recognised for individual species: for example, Sierra Redwoods are intolerant of summer irrigation while Cedars are intolerant of over-watering. Installation of cables and supply lines should be in accordance with the guidelines set out in Drainage and Underground Services.

## *2. Horticulture*

Develop strategies for renovating, replanting and/or extending degraded garden beds and shrubberies. Selection criteria for new plants in the entrance gardens should give preference to species or cultivars available in the early twentieth century. Other criteria include maintenance requirements, shade tolerance (depending on location), the retention of vistas or establishment of enclosure, ultimate size and spread, ability to tolerate local soils. References for species selection include:

Cuffley P, 1991, *Traditional Gardens in Australia* (Five Mile Press)

Provide appropriate edging to garden beds. New shrubs should be located in mulched garden beds, where possible, to retain moisture and to control weeds.

Rejuvenate lawns by breaking up compaction with approved methods, top-dressing and re-sowing with a shade tolerant seed mix. Fill all depressions with additional topsoil to provide even surfaces.

Maintain an automatic irrigation system to water lawns and garden beds independently of trees. The system should include appropriate zones and fittings as necessary to suit different watering requirements (i.e. lawns, shrubs, roses and annuals). The system should be fitted with a rainfall shut-off device. Installation of cables and supply lines should be in accordance with the guidelines set out in Drainage and Underground Services.

Regular maintenance shall include mowing, weeding, disease or pest control, cultivation, mulch replenishment, fertilising, pruning, removal of rubbish and monitoring of irrigation systems.

## *3. Drainage and Underground Services*

All works including new structures, excavation for services, or construction of new garden beds within the vicinity of mature trees shall be subject to approval by an arboriculturalist or horticulturalist experienced in working with historic landscapes, prior to commencement of such works.

Open trenches must be avoided in root zones of mature trees to prevent the severing of roots and causing stress to the trees. Mature and over-mature trees are less able to tolerate such impacts than young or semi-mature trees. Services should either be planned around root zones or should be placed beneath the roots using boring techniques. Irrigation lines should be placed radially with respect to tree trunks rather than across root zones. If necessary, hand excavation methods may be approved.

Stormwater drains may be replaced with modern materials, if necessary, to restrict the ingress of roots. Drains and pits should be cleaned out on a regular basis.

## **5.5 Parking**

*Parking areas should be located so as to be functional and convenient for park users, but not so as to be visually intrusive or a blight on the heritage value of the precinct.*

Permanent parking areas with sealed or crushed rock surfaces are currently only provided for the adventure playground, south and west of the swimming pool and a small area south of the fire brigade marshall track. The Prince's Oval embankment, the area north of the oval, the hockey ground and the southern parkland are all used for temporary parking for sporting and other events.

Permanent or temporary parking should not be permitted around the Prince's Oval embankment or in areas of primary or contributory significance.

Additional permanent parking areas should be established to prevent further deterioration of trees and grass in intensively used areas. Such areas include the southern end of the hockey grounds adjacent to the fire brigade marshall track, to the north of the grandstand, around the swimming pool and tennis courts and west of the Jubilee Oval clubrooms.

## **5.6 Interpretation**

*An interpretive signage strategy should be developed for Prince's Park.*

The current signage in the park has been the result of ad hoc additions of labels, notices and plaques over a considerable time. It would be far more preferable, both for reasons of aesthetics and clarity, to develop an integrated system of interpretive signage. Like the existing 'Golden Triangle' tourist sign boards that have been installed around Maryborough, the signage should be of a standard style and colour, although the size and location of individual signs could vary according to function, whether it be directional, instructive or interpretive. Signage that interprets history of the park, perhaps incorporating copies of early historical photographs, could be located at key points, such as near the main entrances. Any signage should generally be visible yet unobtrusive, and should not contribute to a sense of clutter.

*Provide labels for significant trees.*

An interpretive strategy within the gardens should also include the addition of plant labels for both trees and any unusual shrubs. Label information should include botanical name, common name, place of origin and any other information of interest, such as the aboriginal use of Bunya Bunya pine nuts. Labels should also identify both the trees within the park that are on the register of National Trust Significant Trees.

*Any permanent external signage should be appropriate in style and fixing.*

It is desirable that a strategy be initiated for a standard type of signage, so that the various structures and park elements can clearly be identified as being the individual components of a collective precinct. Beyond that, there is no particular requirement to have a historic style of signage. The signage strategy should include directional signs. A strategy should also be established to control the design and location of commemorative plaques together with a system of approval.

## **5.7 Security and Risk Preparedness**

*Upgrade surveillance where applicable within the precinct.*

The security of the park should be upgraded as part of the general redevelopment. The installation of additional area and pathway lighting, with appropriate vandal-proof fittings, would act as an appropriate deterrent to acts of vandalism.

A Risk Preparedness Plan should be prepared to prevent damage to cultural heritage and to assist response and recovery in the event of a disaster such as a fire or flood.

## 6.0 MASTER PLAN

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### 6.1 General Philosophy

The primary aim of the Master Plan is the creation of a flexible management tool for the ongoing conservation, development and management of Prince's Park. Management must be dynamic, recognising the needs of users and expectations of visitors, while also responding to available skills and resources and recognising the changing circumstances of the park's fabric. The plan should be reassessed on a five-year cycle.

Refer to the accompanying drawings: Site Analysis Plan and Master Plan.

### 6.2 Design Principles

- *Preserve or reinforce the character of each of the zones of the reserve*
- *Reinforce the boundaries of the reserve*
- *Upgrade entrances to reinforce the entry experience*
- *Maintain a balance between areas for active and passive recreation*
- *Upgrade facilities including parking, signage, picnic areas, shelters, playgrounds, toilets*
- *Establish guidelines for retention and replacement of significant trees to sustain amenity*
- *Establish guidelines for new plantings to improve amenity*
- *Improve internal circulation*
- *Establish a signage strategy*
- *Establish guidelines for a consistent approach to site furniture*

### 6.3 Access and Circulation

#### *Definition of entry points:*

The following works are proposed to make the park entry points more obvious to visitors and to improve the quality of the entry experience.

- Upgrade the gardens to main entrance off Park Road.
- Improve the surroundings to Tweedale Gates off Park Road –new balustrade to the bridge, new fencing and adjacent planting, lighting and signage. The ticket box should be removed if it is no longer used.
- Redesign Hubble Gates opposite the swimming pool at the northern end of Napier Street – construct entry piers, lighting, signage, and provide appropriate planting. The ticket box should be removed if it is no longer used. Street tree planting should be upgraded.

#### *Roads:*

Existing roads should be rationalised to minimize impacts on trees and soil compaction and to give priority to pedestrians.

- Minimise vehicle traffic circulation where possible within the park.
- Remove redundant roads and tracks.

#### *Parking:*

Parking should be rationalised to minimize impacts on trees, grass and soil compaction.

- Provide small permanent parking areas near frequently facilities.
- Temporary parking to be permitted on parklands for occasional events.



#### Pathways:

Pathways should only serve major pedestrian desire lines. Maintenance standards should be high to encourage use.

- surface treatment of major pedestrian desire lines and high use areas (including short cut from main entrance to Alma Street or Earl Street, path to north side of pool/south of lake) to be concrete, minimum width 1.5 to 1.8m.
- surface treatment to lake perimeter track to be granitic sand, crushed quartz or local stone (other than bluestone), minimum width 2.4m wide to carry maintenance vehicles.

## 6.4 Vegetation

A tree removal and replacement strategy is necessary to maintain the amenity value of trees. Passive management is an unsatisfactory and inadequate approach. Removal of trees is likely to cause broad community concern unless the public is informed of strategies and reasons in advance. It is recommended that tree replacement be staged over time rather than wholesale renewals of areas.

Trees and shrubs should be used for definition of spaces, highlighting of entries, provision of shade and windbreaks and for general amenity. Random planting to fill spaces should be avoided: this increases mowing costs where trees are planted in grass and reduces flexibility of the space. The following elements should be addressed:

- *Retention of significant trees and protection of root zones.*
- *Retention of elms to Prince's Oval, hockey ground and caravan park.* Replacements where necessary should be with the same species. The Silky Oak (*Grevillea robusta*) should be removed from the row of elms west of the hockey ground.
- *Street trees to Park Road.* Replacement of trees removed for undergrounding of power lines with Plane Trees (*Platanus x acerifolius*).
- *Street trees to Napier Street and Alma Street.* Extend existing street tree species, or provide alternatives, to improve street appearance.
- *Park perimeter planting.* Replacement trees should be conifer species, such as Canary Island Pine (*Pinus canariensis*) or Aleppo Pine (*Pinus halepensis*) - to northern, eastern and southern boundaries.
- *Uniform planting to lake perimeter.* The existing trees should be replaced with a single species of deciduous tree, to replace the original scheme of a row of Weeping Willows (*Salix babylonica*) that has been degraded by the addition of other species. Replacement trees could be Weeping Willows or Golden Willow (*S. x sepulcralis* var. *chrysocoma*), although the weed significance of these species should be taken into consideration. A suitable alternative would be a medium size deciduous species with good autumn colour that will survive in local conditions.
- *Planting to Prince's Oval.* Replacement trees to be Dutch Elm (*Ulmus x hollandica*).
- *Planting to Jubilee Oval.* Trees should be a single species of deciduous tree such as European Nettle Tree (*Celtis australis*) or Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*) to provide the oval with a strong sense of identity.
- *Coronation Plantation.* Selective removal of small trees is necessary to reduce overcrowding and to allow larger trees to grow. The general planting should be recorded and the original planting theme retained (refer to 1953 plan). Missing trees should be replanted and other trees requiring replacement should be replaced with the same species and cultivars.
- *Planting strategy to north of oval.* This area could incorporate a mix of deciduous trees such as Oaks and Planes.
- *New avenue to old fire brigade track.* Plant a single species of medium size deciduous tree such as European Nettle Tree (*Celtis australis*). Retain the two Carob Beans.
- *Tennis courts.* Plant a shelterbelt to the western side as part of an avenue near the swimming pool. Tree spacing should be selected to suit pit sizes for the RACV Energy Breakthrough.

## 6.5 Visitor Facilities

- *Toilets.* Replace the Silver Jubilee Pavilion serving the hockey grounds and Coronation Park picnic area with a more sensitively-sited and designed structure. A new facility could be built parallel to the main drain on the western side, with a bridge serving the sporting ground; low shelters for coaches and spectators could be erected on the eastern side of the drain where appropriate. Facilities should be included for the disabled in toilet blocks. Facilities associated with the grandstand should also be upgraded to include disabled toilets.
- *Picnic shelters.* New facilities should continue to have a consistent style and colour scheme.
- *Playgrounds.* Upgrade Coronation Park facilities to meet current safety standards. Review the condition of the 'fort' and the adjacent timber climbing wall in the eastern playground.

## 6.6 Site Elements and Furniture Design Guidelines

A range of furniture items is required to support the use and enjoyment of the recreation reserve. A well-designed and co-ordinated range of items should contribute to the appearance and character of the reserve. These should be unobtrusive elements in the landscape and be of consistent colour, themes and materials. It is essential to reduce the sense of visual clutter of materials and designs that currently exist.

Furniture items should be attractive, robust, comfortable, versatile, able to be moved if circumstances change and practical in terms of initial cost and ongoing maintenance.

- *Fencing.* Chain wire mesh fencing, either galvanised or black pvc coated is suitable for most situations where security is required, e.g., to southern boundary or north of the oval. The main oval fencing should be matched in any extension work.
- *Seating.* A suitable replacement is needed for the heavy concrete-base seats with timber slats, particularly in the Western Zone of the site; the concrete-base seats could be relocated to Jubilee Oval or the Pool enclosure. A mix of bench seats and seats with backrests should be provided. The timber slat and steel base seat designed by the City of Melbourne Urban Design Group is a suitable example for a seating type in the West Zone. If necessary, seating types could be more rustic in the Central and Eastern Zones.
- *Picnic tables.* Timber slat tables and benches on a steel base are preferred. Table design should cater for wheelchair access at ends.
- *Barbeques.* Surrounds should be built of brick or local stone, not bluestone pitchers.
- *Litter bins.* Simple bins mounted on chamfered timber posts are preferred to large intrusive enclosures containing plastic wheely-bins.
- *Bollards.* Square timber with simple chamfered tops or recycled equivalent. "Heritage" style recycled plastic bollards should be avoided in the Western Zone. Timber should be durable and either painted or unpainted. Avoid the use of treated pine logs.
- *Barriers.* A replacement for treated pine logs should be either bollards, or painted post and rail fence, such as at the western end of the caravan park.
- *Lighting.* Vandal-proof fittings are required to replace the current system of pole-mounted spherical fixtures. Light fixtures that relate to pedestrian scale are preferred, even though they may create easy 'targets'.
- *Drinking fountains.* The Prince's Playground design is a good example for the Eastern Zone.
- *Signage.* A hierarchy should be developed to include directional signs to facilities, location signs (park plans with "You are Here" notations), regulatory signs plus interpretation signs for significant elements and historical facts. A commemorative plaque policy should be developed to include acceptable designs and permitted locations for dedications, tree plantings, etc. Plant labels are required for significant and unusual trees and shrubs. Standards to be established include materials, size, lettering font and colours.

## 6.7 Maintenance

It is recognised that Central Goldfields Shire spends a large proportion of the parks and gardens annual budget on maintenance of Prince's Park. The following is a checklist of items that already receive regular maintenance or that may require additional attention.

- *Grass areas and irrigated areas.* Upgrade the irrigation system and extend to include the grass area north of the main oval and the south-western area. Continue the existing practice of different mowing regimes for irrigated and non-irrigated areas (i.e., non-irrigated require mowing at less frequent intervals).
- *Gravel paths.* These should be inspected regularly for erosion and wear and topped up on an annual basis.
- *Lake and islands.* Remove sucker growth from embankments. Remove weed species from the islands and replace with low-maintenance vegetation.
- *Gardens.* The extension of shrub beds around main entrance will require a greater maintenance input. This area should be maintained to a high standard as a setting for historic structures and as the prime entry point for visitors.
- *Trees.* Retain an arboriculturalist to provide an annual inspection and condition report for significant trees. Other trees should also be inspected on a regular basis to address safety issues.
- *Painting of structures.* Includes grandstand, rotunda, main gates and fence, bridges, bollards, shelters and other structures. Note the requirements of the conservation policies to determine original paint colours before historic structures are repainted.

## 6.8 Works proposed for the Crown Land Reserves Improvement Program

- *Extend heritage fencing along Park Road (towards Tweedale Gates) - bluestone plinth, cast iron rods and spearheads.*

Any extension of the cast iron fence should be carried out in a sympathetic style but should not attempt to copy the existing. It is important that a distinction be made between the historic fence and new work. A suitable fence would be an iron rod and railing fence without decorative spearheads. Posts should not be obvious. The rod spacing and fence height could be similar, and a coloured concrete plinth could be constructed at the base.

- *Heritage-style cast iron railing to road bridge (similar to Main Gate bridge).*

Similar comments apply to the copying of the Main Gate bridge balustrade for a proposed new balustrade as for the cast iron fence extension: "copies" of historic work are unacceptable. A suitable approach would be to use the same pattern as the pedestrian bridge balustrade in the south-western corner of the park.

- *Underground power lines (for frontage with Park Road) and replace trees.*

The first stage of this work re: under-grounding of power lines has been completed. Advanced specimens of Plane Tree (*Platanus x acerifolius*) have still to be planted to replace the street trees removed.

- *Fencing to Main Drain.*

While there is no precedence for fencing to the drain inside the park, other than a post and rail fence to the rear of the grandstand at the turn of the century, there is no particular reason why this could not occur.

for reasons of safety, etc. Any necessary fencing should be constructed clear of the drain to avoid any damage to the fabric and should be transparent enough to enable the drain to be viewed. The fencing style should not detract from the surroundings of the drain. A low chain wire and railing fence such as the existing fence at the eastern side of Coronation Park would be suitable.

- *Upgrading of Lake Victoria (south end) at wharf area including installation of fountain.*

The wharf area is in disrepair and should either be restored, if it has a legitimate purpose, or completely removed. The installation of a fountain is of doubtful value; while it may be of use for aeration of the water generally, it would not be visible from many vantage points. There is potential for fish disturbance, but only during installation. This may prove to be a high maintenance item.

- *Construction of one hard-surface tennis court and fencing to tennis court complex.*

Work is in progress. The fencing to this area should set standards for other areas of the park.

- *Upgrading of Olympic Swimming Pool Complex amenity.*

The scope of proposed works is unknown. The Photinia hedge to the southern fences should be replanted and extended.

- *Major enlargement / upgrade works to Prince's Oval*

The proposal is for an extension of 10 metres towards the lake with a corresponding small extension to the north. The implications are that the embankment would need to be moved into the lake, the fencing would require extension and the scoreboard would need to be moved or replaced.

The enlargement of the oval will only be permitted by DNRE if it does not encroach into the lake, due to the population of Freshwater Catfish of State significance. The work must be carried out in a manner that retains the current character of the oval and its surrounds. Trees will require replacement to the embankment while spectator areas and the walking track must be retained. Car parking must be excluded from the spectator area, which could then be narrowed in width. Any work with potential for lake disturbance, and therefore impacts on the Native Catfish population, should be approved by the Flora and Fauna section of DNRE.

## 6.9 Other current proposals

- *Four hard-surface tennis courts.* Work is in progress.
- *Sound shell.* The preferred location for such a facility is in the Eastern Zone of the park, an area of little or no significance, as recommended in Section 5.3.4, policy number 3.

The sound shell could be of modern or traditional design, but should be carefully located so as not to encroach on relationships between existing structures or settings and should be in scale with existing development. An ideal opportunity exists for locating a sound shell on the northern side of the existing playground mounding, where the mounding can provide an amphitheatre effect and seating for spectators, while minimising visual impact. New facilities already exist in this location or can be further developed. Service access can be obtained from Burns Street. Car parking is also available to the south.

The current location proposed for a sound shell, at the southern side of the rotunda lawn, is in an area of contributory significance. This location has no toilets nearby and no car parking, except for the area used

for temporary parking under the trees to the south. While the location is reasonably close to either the main entrance or the Hubble Gates, other disadvantages include a flat audience area, the required removal of existing trees (including one unusual species, *Cupressus torulosa* var. *corneyana*) and the potential for adverse impact on root zones of mature trees.

- *Prince's Oval lighting.* Three additional towers are proposed to complement the existing. As these are a necessary requirement for modern sporting functions there is no objection to their implementation, although the design may require approval.
- *Litter trap to main drain.* The proposed location is near the junction of the main drain and the Blackman's Lead arm. The proposed work would, if permitted, cause irreversible damage to the historic fabric of the main drain in this prominent position. An alternative location should be determined outside the park.
- *Additional hockey ground.* Two alternative locations were considered and both were rejected. These were as follows:
  - (a) to remove the mounding north of Prince's Playground and construct a new hockey ground on the old soccer ground, or
  - (b) move the caravan park to take over part of the mounded area of Prince's Playground and place the hockey ground on the eastern side of the current hockey area.

The first alternative is not only remote from the existing hockey facilities but was strongly objected to by the Maryborough Lions' Club, who have been actively involved in the construction and promotion of the playground. While the second alternative would allow for a consolidation of facilities, assuming that objections from the caravan park could be overcome, there is insufficient land between the lake embankment and Holyrood Street for construction of a full-size ground. A full size hockey ground is 91.44m x 55m and requires additional space of 3m to each side margin and 4.5m to end margins.

This facility should be relocated to another site in Maryborough where there is room to provide proper facilities and car parking.

- *Sand beach to Lake Victoria.* This would impact on Native Catfish and change appearance of the lake. The current Council regulations do not permit swimming.

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## ENDNOTES

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- <sup>1</sup> B Osborn & T DuBourg, *Maryborough A Social history 1854-1904*, Maryborough 1985, p.23.
- <sup>2</sup> *ibid.*, pp54-63.
- <sup>33</sup> *ibid.*, p24.
- <sup>4</sup> Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser (MADA), 28 April 1854, quoted in Osborn & DuBourg, *op. cit.* p31.
- <sup>5</sup> MADA, 8 September 1857. Maryborough Municipal Council Minutes, 7 September 1857, cited in Osborn & DuBourg *op. cit.* p 150.
- <sup>6</sup> Victorian Government Gazette (VGG) No 63/2877 October 1863.
- <sup>7</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, *op. cit.* p 154.
- <sup>8</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, *op. cit.* p 160.
- <sup>9</sup> DNRE Reserves File, Bendigo. Letters from Clement Hodgkinson, 9 June 1869, and the Town Clerk, Charles Touthcher, 19 June 1869.
- <sup>10</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, *op. cit.* p 346.
- <sup>11</sup> VGG 14 July 1882 vol 2, p1732- temporary reservation; VGG 1895 Gazette No 95/470.
- <sup>12</sup> MADA 19 February 1883.
- <sup>13</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, *op. cit.* p 326.
- <sup>14</sup> MADA 16 April 1897; 20 May 1896, cited in Osborn & DuBourg *op. cit.* p327.
- <sup>15</sup> *Cyclopaedia of Victoria*, vol II, 1904, p.300 Osborn & DuBourg *op. cit.* p356.
- <sup>16</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, *op. cit.*, p 72.
- <sup>17</sup> MADA 22 December 1905 Osborn & DuBourg *op. cit.* p.149.
- <sup>18</sup> Maryborough Advertiser 6 July 1926 *ibid.* p225.
- <sup>19</sup> Maryborough Advertiser, 12 November 1928 *ibid.* p225.
- <sup>20</sup> Letter from Town Clerk to Lands Dept., 8 March 1939, held in DNRE Reserves File, Bendigo.
- <sup>21</sup> D Wagstaff - personal communication.
- <sup>22</sup> Letter from Town Clerk to Lands Dept 12 August 1863, Dept NRE file.
- <sup>23</sup> Council minutes, 17 October 1884.
- <sup>24</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, *op. cit.*, p357.
- <sup>25</sup> Letter from Town Clerk to Lands Department, 12 August 1863.
- <sup>26</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, *op. cit.*, p160.
- <sup>27</sup> Council minutes, 7 June 1906.
- <sup>28</sup> DNRE Reserves File, Bendigo. Letter from Clement Hodgkinson, 9 June 1869.
- <sup>29</sup> Maryborough Sewerage Authority plan 1946.
- <sup>30</sup> Council minutes, 21 September 1911. J Phelan submitted the lowest tender for £143.
- <sup>31</sup> Bruce Osborn, *Maryborough Main Drain 1870 - 1915*.
- <sup>32</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, *op. cit.*, p326.
- <sup>33</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, *op. cit.*, p338,339,371.
- <sup>34</sup> D Bick et. al. *City of Maryborough Heritage Study*, 1992.
- <sup>35</sup> J Hawker, personal communication.
- <sup>36</sup> H Hart, *Lads of the Village*.
- <sup>37</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, *op. cit.*, p327.
- <sup>38</sup> Council minutes, 4 November 1909.
- <sup>39</sup> *ibid.*
- <sup>40</sup> G Lovett, personal communication.
- <sup>41</sup> *ibid.*
- <sup>42</sup> B Osborn, personal communication.
- <sup>43</sup> Letter from Town Clerk to Lands Department, 8 March 1939.
- <sup>44</sup> J Hawker, personal communication.
- <sup>45</sup> Council minutes, 19 January 1905.
- <sup>46</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, *op. cit.* p372.
- <sup>47</sup> D Bick et. al. *City of Maryborough Heritage Study*, 1992.
- <sup>48</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, *op. cit.* early photograph p373.
- <sup>49</sup> G Lovett, personal communication.
- <sup>50</sup> Letter from Town Clerk to Lands Department, 8 March 1939.

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- <sup>51</sup> D Wagstaff, personal communication.
- <sup>52</sup> G Lovett, personal communication.
- <sup>53</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, op. cit. p285.
- <sup>54</sup> Council minutes 1886: Nov 19, Dec 31.
- <sup>55</sup> Bruce Osborn - personal communication.
- <sup>56</sup> MADA 19 February 1883.
- <sup>57</sup> Bruce Osborn - letter 9 November 1999.
- <sup>58</sup> J Hawker, personal communication.
- <sup>59</sup> B Osborn, *Against the Odds*, 1995, p.380.
- <sup>60</sup> *Maryborough & Dunolly Advertiser*, 22 March 1897.
- <sup>61</sup> *The Australasian*, 21 March 1903.
- <sup>62</sup> D Wagstaff, personal communication.
- <sup>63</sup> D Wagstaff, personal communication.
- <sup>64</sup> D Wagstaff, personal communication.
- <sup>65</sup> D Wagstaff, personal communication.
- <sup>66</sup> B Osborn, *Against the Odds*, 1995, p.380.
- <sup>67</sup> *ibid*, p.276.
- <sup>68</sup> *ibid*, p.357.
- <sup>69</sup> J Hawker, personal communication.
- <sup>70</sup> *ibid*, p.378.
- <sup>71</sup> Allom Lovell & Associates, *Historic Towns Cultural Precinct, Beechworth*, 1999, p.102.
- <sup>72</sup> B Osborn, *Against the Odds*, 1995, p.280.
- <sup>73</sup> *ibid*, p.402.
- <sup>74</sup> *ibid*, p.236.
- <sup>75</sup> *ibid*, p.327.
- <sup>76</sup> Council minutes, 7 December 1905.
- <sup>77</sup> B Osborn, *Against the Odds*, 1995, p.173.
- <sup>78</sup> *ibid*, p.355.
- <sup>79</sup> Osborn & DuBourg, op. cit. p351, Council Minutes 16/02/1911.
- <sup>80</sup> J Kerr. *the Conservation Plan*. Sydney, 1996.
- <sup>81</sup> *Victorian Parliamentary Debates*, Melbourne to Burwood Tramways Park Bill Debate, 21/12/1915, p.4331.
- <sup>82</sup> *ibid.*, p.227.
- <sup>83</sup> J Ramsey, *Gardens and Special Trees: a Classification and Assessment Method for the Register of the National Estate*. pp6-7.
- <sup>84</sup> *ibid.*, p.8.
- <sup>85</sup> R Wright, *The Bureaucrats' Domain*, p. 116.
- <sup>86</sup> *ibid*, p.120.
- <sup>87</sup> *ibid*, pp.128-9.
- <sup>88</sup> Letter from Town Clerk to Lands Dept., 12 Aug 1863, held in DNRE Reserves File, Bendigo.
- <sup>89</sup> Letter from Clement Hodgkinson, 9 June 1869, held in DNRE Reserves File, Bendigo.
- <sup>90</sup> Letter from Town Clerk to Lands Dept., 8 March 1939, held in DNRE Reserves File, Bendigo.
- <sup>91</sup> Council minutes, 19 December 1946.
- <sup>92</sup> M Gould, *Hawthorn Heritage Study*, 1992.
- <sup>93</sup> *The Cyclopedia of Victoria, 1904*, Vol 1, p.383-4, ed. James Smith.
- <sup>94</sup> B Osborn, *Against the Odds*, 1995, pp.94-5.
- <sup>95</sup> D Bick et. al. *City of Maryborough Heritage Study*, 1992.
- <sup>96</sup> *ibid*.
- <sup>97</sup> P Watts. *Historic Gardens of Victoria*, 1983. p.211.

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## APPENDIX A BURRA CHARTER

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### The Australia ICOMOS GUIDELINES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF PLACES OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Known as  
**THE BURRA CHARTER**

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#### **Preamble**

Having regard to the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice 1966), and the Resolutions of the 5th General Assembly of ICOMOS (Moscow 1978), the following Charter has been adopted by Australia ICOMOS.

#### **Definitions**

**ARTICLE 1.** For the purposes of this Charter:

- 1.1 Place means site, area, building or other work, group of buildings or other works together with pertinent contents and surroundings.
- 1.2 *Cultural significance* means aesthetic, historic, scientific or social value for past, present or future generations.
- 1.3 *Fabric* means all the physical material of the *place*.
- 1.4 *Conservation* means all the processes of looking after a *place* so as to retain its *cultural significance*. It includes *maintenance* and may, according to circumstance include *preservation*, *restoration*, *reconstruction* and *adaptation* and will be commonly a combination of more than one of these.
- 1.5 *Maintenance* means the continuous protective care of the *fabric*, contents and setting of a *place*, and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves *restoration* or *reconstruction* and it should be treated accordingly.
- 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 existing components without the introduction of new material.
- 1.8 *Reconstruction* means returning a *place* as nearly as possible to a known earlier state and is distinguished by the introduction of materials (new or old) into the *fabric*. This is not to be confused with either re-creation or conjectural reconstruction which are outside the scope of this Charter.
- 1.9 *Adaptation* means modifying a *place* to suit proposed compatible uses.
- 1.10 Compatible use means a use that involves no change to the cultural significance fabric, changes which are substantially reversible, or changes which require a minimal impact.

## Conservation Principles

### **ARTICLE 2**

The aim of *conservation* is to retain or recover the *cultural significance* of a *place* and must include provision for its security, its *maintenance* and its future.

### **ARTICLE 3**

*Conservation* is based on a respect for the existing *fabric* and should involve the least possible physical intervention. It should not distort the evidence provided by the *fabric*.

### **ARTICLE 4**

*Conservation* should make use of all the disciplines that can contribute to the study and safeguarding of a *place*. Techniques employed should be traditional but in some circumstances they may be modern ones for which a firm scientific basis exists and which have been supported by a body of experience.

### **ARTICLE 5**

*Conservation* of a *place* should take into consideration all aspects of its *cultural significance* without unwarranted emphasis on any one at the expense of others.

### **ARTICLE 6**

The conservation policy appropriate to a *place* must first be determined by an understanding of its *cultural significance* and its physical condition.

### **ARTICLE 7**

The conservation policy will determine which uses are compatible.

### **ARTICLE 8**

*Conservation* requires the maintenance of an appropriate visual setting, eg, form, scale, colour, texture and materials. No new construction, demolition or modification which would adversely affect the settings should be allowed. Environmental intrusions which adversely affect appreciation or enjoyment of the *place* should be excluded.

### **ARTICLE 9**

A building or work should remain in its historic location. The moving of all or part of a building or work is unacceptable unless this is the sole means of ensuring its survival.

### **ARTICLE 10**

The removal of contents which form part of the *cultural significance* of the place is unacceptable unless it is the sole means of ensuring their security and *preservation*. Such contents must be returned should changed circumstances make this practicable.

## Conservation Processes

### **Preservation**

### **ARTICLE 11**

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

**ARTICLE 12**

*Preservation* is limited to the protection, *maintenance* and where necessary, the stabilisation of the existing *fabric* but without the distortion of its *cultural significance*.

**Restoration**

**ARTICLE 13**

*Restoration* is appropriate only if there is sufficient evidence of an earlier state of the *fabric* and only if returning the *fabric* to that state recovers the *cultural significance* of the place.

**ARTICLE 14**

*Restoration* should reveal anew, culturally significant aspects of the *place*. It is based on respect for all the physical, documentary and other evidence and stops at the point where conjecture begins.

**ARTICLE 15**

*Restoration* is limited to the reassembling of displaced components or removal of accretions in accordance with Article 16.

**ARTICLE 16**

The contributions of all periods to the *place* must be respected. If a *place* includes the *fabric* of different periods, revealing the *fabric* of one period at the expense of another can only be justified when what is removed is of slight *cultural significance* and the *fabric* which is to be revealed is of much greater *cultural significance*.

**Reconstruction**

**ARTICLE 17**

*Reconstruction* is appropriate where a *place* is incomplete through damage or alteration and where it is necessary for its survival, or where it recovers the *cultural significance* of the *place* as a whole.

**ARTICLE 18**

*Reconstruction* is limited to the completion of a depleted entity and should not constitute the majority of the *fabric* of a *place*.

**ARTICLE 19**

*Reconstruction* is limited to the reproduction of *fabric* the form of which is known from physical and/or documentary evidence. It should be identifiable on close inspection as being new work.

**Adaptation**

**ARTICLE 20**

*Adaptation* is acceptable where the *conservation* of the *place* cannot otherwise be achieved, and where the *adaptation* does not substantially detract from its *cultural significance*.

**ARTICLE 21**

*Adaptation* must be limited to that which is essential to a use for the place determined in accordance with Articles 6 and 7.

**ARTICLE 22**

*Fabric* of *cultural significance* unavoidably removed in the process of *adaptation* must be kept safely to enable its future reinstatement.

## Conservation Practice

### ARTICLE 23

Work on a *place* must be preceded by professionally prepared studies of the physical, documentary and other evidence, and the existing *fabric* recorded before any disturbance of the *place*.

### ARTICLE 24

Study of a *place* by any disturbance of the *fabric* or by archaeological excavation should be undertaken where necessary to provide data essential for decisions on the *conservation* of the *place* and/or to secure evidence about to be lost or made inaccessible through necessary *conservation* or other unavoidable action. Investigation of a *place* for any other reason which requires physical disturbance and which adds substantially to a scientific body of knowledge may be permitted, provided that it is consistent with the conservation policy for the *place*.

### ARTICLE 25

A written statement of conservation policy must be professionally prepared setting out the *cultural significance*, physical condition and proposed *conservation* process together with justification and supporting evidence, including photographs, drawings and all appropriate samples.

### ARTICLE 26

The organisation and individuals responsible for policy decisions must be named and specific responsibility taken for each such decision.

### ARTICLE 27

Appropriate professional direction and supervision must be maintained at all stages of the work and a log kept of new evidence and additional decisions recorded as in Article 25 above.

### ARTICLE 28

The records required by Articles 23, 25, 26 and 27 should be placed in a permanent archive and made publicly available.

### ARTICLE 29

The items referred to in Article 10 and Article 22 should be professionally catalogued and protected.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Article 1   | Place includes structures, ruins, archaeological sites and areas.  |
| Article 1.5 | The distinctions referred to in Article 1.5, for example in relation to roof gutters, are:<br>Maintenance - regular inspection and cleaning of eaves spoutings.<br>Repair involving restoration - returning of dislodged gutters to their place.<br>Repair involving reconstruction - replacing decayed gutters.           |
| Article 2   | Conservation should not be undertaken unless adequate resources are available to ensure that the fabric is not left in a vulnerable state and that the cultural significance of the place is not impaired. However, it must be emphasised that the best conservation often involves the least work and can be inexpensive. |
| Article 3   | The traces of additions, alterations and earlier treatments on the fabric of a place are the best evidence of its history and uses.<br><br>Conservation action should tend to assist rather than to impede their interpretation.   |
| Article 8   | New construction work, including infill and additions, may be acceptable provided:   |

It does not reduce or obscure the cultural significance of the place.

It is in keeping with Article 8.

Article 9

Some structures were designed to be readily removable or already have a history of previous moves, eg. prefabricated dwellings and poppetheads. Provided such a structure does not have a strong association with its present site its removal may be considered.

If any structure is moved it should be moved to an appropriate setting and given an appropriate use. Such action should not be to the detriment of any place of cultural significance.

Article 11 Preservation protects fabric without obscuring the evidence of its construction and use. The process should always be applied:

Where the evidence of the fabric is of such significance that it must not be altered. This is an unusual case and likely to be appropriate for archaeological remains of national importance.

Where insufficient investigation has been carried out to permit conservation policy decisions to be taken in accord with Articles 23 to 25.

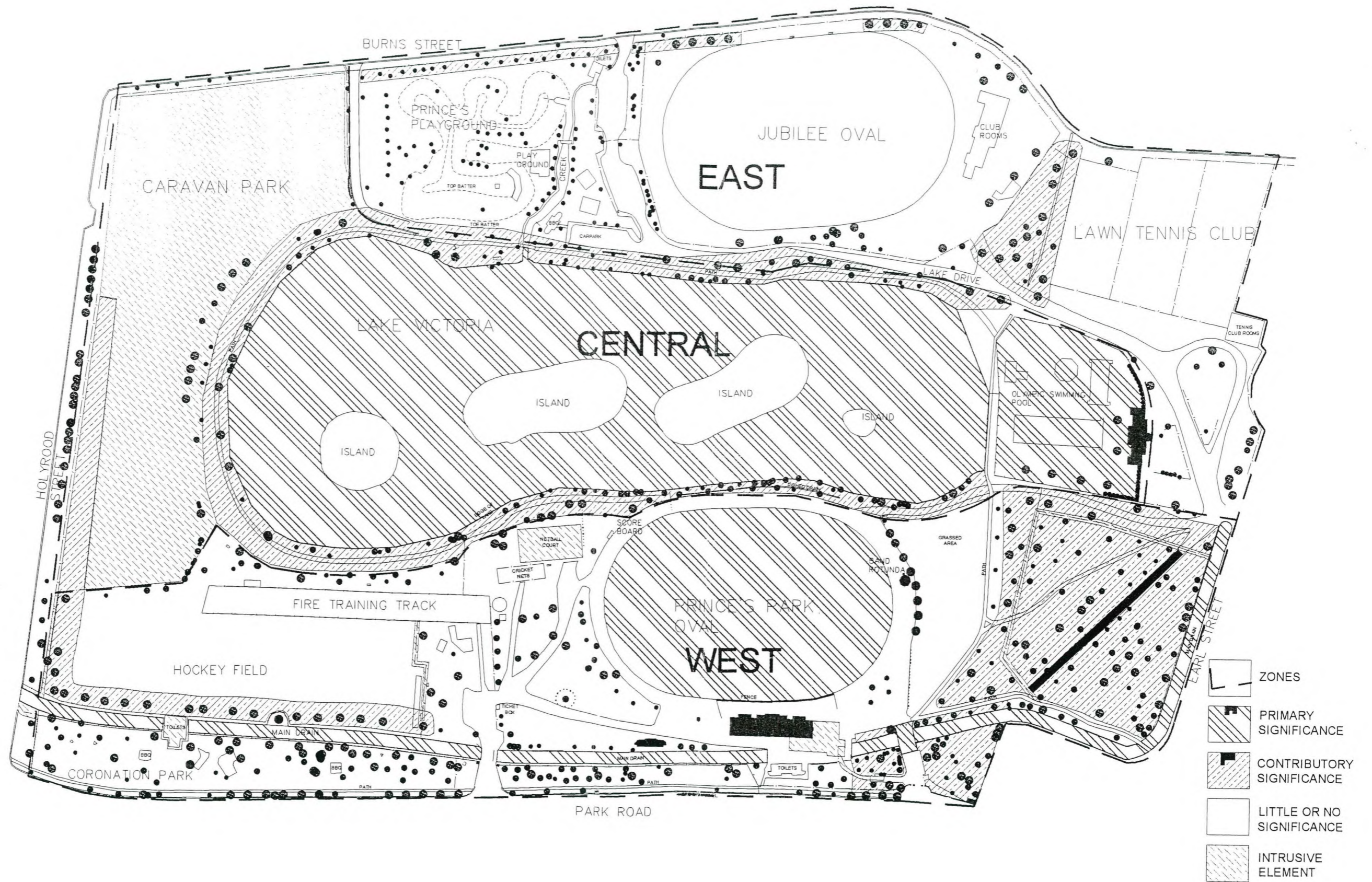
New construction may be carried out in association with preservation when its purpose is the physical protection of the fabric and when it is consistent with Article 8.

Article 12

Stabilisation is a process that helps keep fabric intact and in a fixed position. When carried out as a part of preservation work it does not introduce new materials into the fabric. However, when necessary for the survival of the fabric stabilisation may be effected as part of a reconstruction process and new materials introduced. For example, grouting or the insertion of a reinforced rod in a masonry wall.

Article 13

See explanatory Note for Article 2



CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS SHIRE  
COUNCIL

PO BOX 194 MARYBOROUGH  
PH (03) 54 610610 FAX (03) 54 610666

# PRINCE'S PARK - LEVELS OF SIGNIFICANCE & ZONING

SCALE: NTS DATE JANUARY 2000 PROJECT 99-135

JOHN PATRICK PTY. LTD  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS  
A.C.N. 806 343 826

324 Victoria Street, Richmond 3121  
Ph: 9429 4855 Fax: 9429 8211  
Email: johnpatrick@brd.com.au

**APPENDIX B                      HERITAGE LISTINGS**

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**Victorian Heritage Register**

**Maryborough Municipal Olympic Swimming Complex, H1319**

**National Trust of Australia (Victoria)**

**Maryborough Municipal Olympic Swimming Complex, No. 6801**

**National Trust of Australia (Victoria)**

**Bandstand - Maryborough, No. 2646**

**Australian Heritage Commission - Register of the National Estate**

**Band Rotunda - Maryborough, No. 004241**

**National Trust of Australia (Victoria) - Significant Trees Register**

***Brachychiton acerifolius***

***Juniperus phoenicea***

VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER



# VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER



Inclusion of a place or object in the Heritage Register pursuant to Section 32 (c) of the Heritage Act 1995

<b>NUMBER:</b> 1319	<b>CATEGORY:</b> Heritage Place <small>(heritage place, heritage object, archaeological place, archaeological relic, historic shipwreck, historic shipwreck relic, protected zone)</small>
<b>NAME:</b> Maryborough Municipal Olympic Swimming Complex	
<b>LOCATION:</b> Napier St Maryborough	
<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:</b> Central Goldfields Shire	<b>FILE NO:</b> 607693
<b>DATE RECOMMENDED:</b> 24 February 1997	<b>DATE REGISTERED:</b> 19 June 1997 <small>(date of notice in Government Gazette)</small>





HERITAGE REGISTER NUMBER: 1319

NAME: Maryborough Municipal Olympic Swimming Complex

STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

The Maryborough Municipal Olympic Swimming Complex was opened by Sir Frank Beaurepaire in 1940 and designed by local architect EJ Peck and city engineers EJ Muntz and J Hocking. As constructed, the complex comprised an entrance pavilion, an Olympic swimming pool, an octagonal wading pool, service buildings all within a garden setting. The reinforced concrete and brick entrance pavilion was designed in a style strongly influenced by the aesthetics of European functionalism. The Maryborough complex was contemporary with a number of other similar municipal council schemes providing modern, safe and hygienic swimming facilities, manifesting the changing public nature of bathing and swimming from chiefly a health related activity to a recreational pursuit. An intermediate pool was added to the Maryborough complex in 1973. The site remains remarkably intact, with the original pools, entrance pavilion and planting scheme retained in close to original condition.

The Maryborough Municipal Olympic Swimming Complex is of architectural, aesthetic and historical significance to the State of Victoria.

The swimming complex is architecturally significant as a rare, intact example of a swimming pool complex designed in the late 1930s. The entrance pavilion is architecturally important as a recreational building employing the architectural language promoted by European functionalist architects of the 1920s and 1930s and symbolising a concern for modernity, safety and hygiene. The complex has aesthetic significance as a well planned recreational facility with an intact, late 1930s garden setting, all picturesquely set within and overlooking a nineteenth century municipal park.

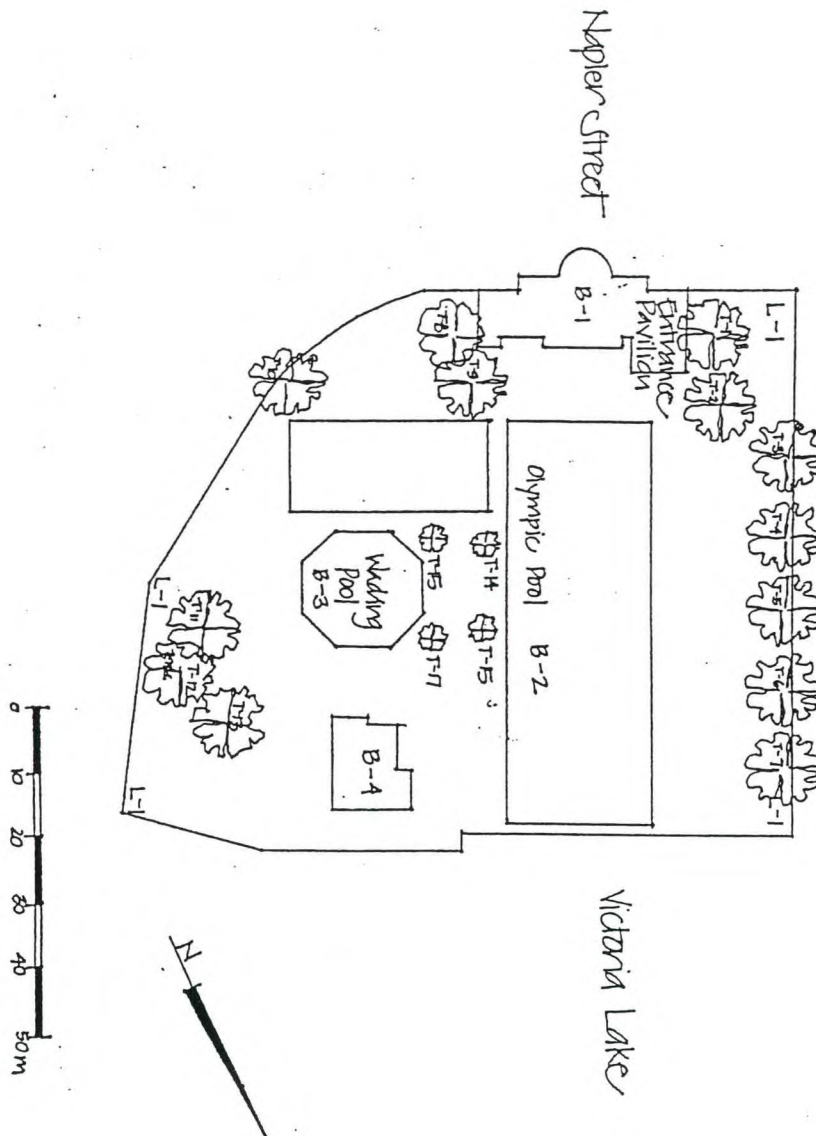
The Maryborough Municipal Olympic Swimming Complex is historically significant as an example of a municipal pool complex illustrating the development of swimming in Victoria during the inter-war period. The pool complex has historical significance for its special association with Frank Beaurepaire, being one of the few surviving pools opened by him as part of his long commitment to swimming in Victoria and, particularly, associated with his fostering of building programmes encouraging the provision of municipal pools throughout the state.

HERITAGE REGISTER NUMBER: 1319

NAME: Maryborough Municipal Olympic Swimming Complex

- EXTENT:
1. Part of land marked L-1 on diagram 607693 held by the Executive Director being part of the land described in Certificate of Title Volume 2577 Folio 515357
  2. All of the buildings marked B-1 (pavilion), B-2 (Olympic pool), B-3 (wading pool) and B-4 (plant room) on diagram 607693 held by the Executive Director.
  3. All of the trees and plants on the above described land and marked T-1 to T-17 on diagram 607693.

DIAGRAM NUMBER: 607693





# National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

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### Municipal Olympic Swimming Pool Complex - Maryborough Central Goldfields Shire Council

**Number:** 6801  
**Location:** Princes Park (southern end)  
 Maryborough, 3465  
**Type:** ?  
**Classification:** File Only

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On 3 August 1998, the National Trust approved new levels of significance for old classifications. The classification process is still under review and many Statements of Significance will change.

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### Bandstand - Maryborough Central Goldfields Shire Council

**Number:** 2646  
**Location:** Princes Park  
 Maryborough, 3465  
**Type:** Bandstand & Rotunda  
**Classification:** Local  
**Last Reviewed:** 20 November, 1975  
**Statement of Significance:** Simple octagonal band rotunda of 1904 with ogee-curved corrugated iron roof, tall finial and ornamental cast iron balustrading and valance, on low brick base.

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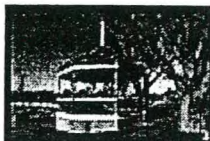


# Register of the National Estate Database

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## Band Rotunda , Maryborough VIC



**Class:** Historic

**Legal Status:** Registered

**Database Number:** 004241

**File Number:** 2/06/098/0002

**Statement of Significance:** Band Rotunda, Princess Park, Maryborough, forms part of a number of buildings of architectural and townscape importance in the city of Maryborough. The Band Rotunda has historical associations with the city and forms one of a small group of such structures erected in Victoria. Band rotundas themselves represent a popular building type now no longer built. This rotunda is fairly typically detailed and is architecturally notable for its roof shape.

(The Commission is in the process of developing and/or upgrading official statements for places listed prior to 1991. The above data was mainly provided by the nominator and has not yet been revised by the Commission.)

**Description :** Band Rotunda, Princess Park, Maryborough, was erected in 1904 to commemorate Maryborough's golden jubilee. Octagonal in plan, the structure is constructed on a brick base and is timber framed with decorative iron balustrade. The roof is clad in corrugated iron and is shaped to form a domed crown capped by a tall finial.

**Condition and Integrity :** Band Rotunda, Princes Park, Maryborough, is in good condition and largely intact.

**Location :** Princes Park, Earl Street, Maryborough.

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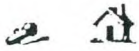
The Register of the National Estate has been compiled since 1976. The Commission is in the process of developing and/or upgrading official statements of significance for places listed prior to 1991.

Report produced : 24/12/1999

RNEDB URL : <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/register/easydatabase/database.html>

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# The AHC Photographic Database



## Band Rotunda

View the Register of the National Estate listing for this Place (RRNO: 4241)



RT-ID:	RT38034
Holdings:	RT38033 - RT38035
Date Taken:	1995
Quality:	Excellent
Reproduction Status:	
Location:	Princes Park, Maryborough, Vic
Photographer:	Wright, P.
Format:	35mm colour transparency
Keyword:	Parks, Rotundas
Copyright:	© Contact AHC

# National Trust (Victoria) Significant Trees Register

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**NAME:** Brachychiton acerifolius **ID:**  
**COMMON NAME:** Flame Tree **FAMILY:** Sterculiaceae  
**LOCATION:** Princess Park, Maryborough, near main entrance **LONGITUDE/LATITUDE:**  
**MUNICIPALITY:** Maryborough City Council **NEW MUNICIPALITY:** Central Goldfields Shire Council  
**OWNERSHIP:** Central Goldfields Shire Council **NUMBER OF TREES:** 1  
**SIGNIFICANCE:** Outstanding Size: height; Aesthetic Value  
**STATUS:** Recorded **HEIGHT:** 15.7 metres **CONDITION:** Good  
**ACCESS:** Unrestricted **CIRCUMFERENCE:** 2 metres **DATE:** 28/02/84  
**ESTIMATED AGE:** 70 years **SPREAD:** 7.8 metres  
**NOTES:** Large tree located near the bridge in Princess Park.

---

**NAME:** Juniperus phoenicea **ID:**  
**COMMON NAME:** Phoenician Juniper **FAMILY:** Cupressaceae  
**LOCATION:** Princes Park, Maryborough, north of grandstand **LONGITUDE/LATITUDE:**  
**MUNICIPALITY:** Maryborough City Council **NEW MUNICIPALITY:** Central Goldfields Shire Council  
**OWNERSHIP:** Central Goldfields Shire Council **NUMBER OF TREES:** 1  
**SIGNIFICANCE:** Rare or Localised: only known specimen  
**STATUS:** Classified **HEIGHT:** 9.5 metres **CONDITION:** Good  
**ACCESS:** Unrestricted **CIRCUMFERENCE:** 1.8 metres **DATE:** 4/07/94  
**ESTIMATED AGE:** 80 years **SPREAD:** 8.8 metres  
**NOTES:** A well-shaped specimen forming part of a collection of Junipers in the park. The tree should be protected from car parking beneath its canopy. Propagation is recommended.

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## **APPENDIX C**

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### **Levels of Significance and Zoning Plan**

#### **Transcript of Letter from Clement Hodgkinson to Maryborough Borough Council 9 June 1869.**

Transcript prepared by Friends of Our Parks, Maryborough.

#### **Tree Survey of Prince's Park - June 1999**

Survey prepared by Trevor Lawrence, Tree Surgeon.