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# H V McKay Memorial Gardens



1561a. - Brimbank City  
Council Post-contact Cultural  
Heritage Study 1999



1561b. - Brimbank City  
Council Post-contact Cultural  
Heritage Study 2000

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## Location

Anderson Road, SUNSHINE VIC 3020 - Property No 24

## Municipality

BRIMBANK CITY

## Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1953

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO010

## Heritage Listing

Brimbank City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - February 27, 1999

### Individual place statement of significance::

The H.V. McKay Memorial Gardens are of State significance as an early example of a privately- funded garden

attached to an industrial site and catering primarily for the recreation needs of workers, their families and local residents; as an integral part of an industrial complex of national importance in the history of Australian manufacturing; as part of the 'garden suburb' vision of H.V. McKay, pioneer industrialist and developer of much of the infrastructure of the suburb of Sunshine; as a link with an earlier era, with remaining elements including exotic trees, especially oaks, and some early path lay-out and landscaping. The Gardens are also of regional significance as an oasis in the heart of a densely-developed industrial and residential area and of local significance as the setting for the McKay Memorial Presbyterian church. Note: This statement of significance is based on that prepared by the National Trust of Australia (Victoria).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Brimbank - Brimbank City Council Post-contact Cultural Heritage Study, G. Vines, 2000;
Construction dates	1910,
Hermes Number	105905
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

Set in a triangular block between Anderson Road and the North East Railway line and bounded on the south side by the closed section of Devonshire Road, which has been incorporated into the gardens themselves. The HV McKay Memorial Gardens contain a collection of mainly exotic trees, shrubs and perennials, as well as a small rose garden. Some of the larger, more mature and uncommon trees include a pair of *Cupressus glabra*, a pair of *Quercus robur* and a pair of *Lagunaria patersonii*, a number of large *Quercus robur*, *Lagunaria patersonii* and *Cedrus deodara*. There is also a large *Magnolia grandiflora*, *Grevillea robusta*, *Populus deltoides* and a redwood. Among the older and more interesting shrubs is a large clump of *Strelitzia nicholii*, *Cordyline australis* and *Doryanthes* sp. (Gymaea lily). A concrete base glasshouse, dating from c.1920s-30s, was recently demolished. At the Anderson Road northern entrance (opposite King Edward Avenue) there is an iron gate (c.1920s) with concrete posts and a much older ornamental bluestone gate post. The gatepost is said to have been the work of Nathaniel McKay (father of H.V. McKay), a stonemason who made the fence and posts for the Scots Church in Collins Street. The wrought-iron gates were the work of Charlie Pippett, a blacksmith at H.V. McKay's Sunshine Harvester Works.

Condition

Good.

## Physical Conditions

Good

## Historical Australian Themes

4 Building settlement, towns and cities

4.1 Planning urban settlements

*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*