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# H V McKay Memorial Gates



1562 - Brimbank City Council  
Post-contact Cultural  
Heritage Study 1998



Memorial Gates.JPG



Site 042 - HV McKay  
Memorial Gates.jpg

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## Location

Anderson Road; King Edward Avenue & Talmage Street, SUNSHINE VIC 3020 - Property No 42

## Municipality

BRIMBANK CITY

## Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO053

## Heritage Listing

Brimbank City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 13, 1998

### Individual place statement of significance::

The elaborate wrought iron gates are of regional significance for their historical association with H V McKay and his company town of Sunshine. They are also of architectural (technical design) significance as a fine example of blacksmith-forged decorative wrought iron gates. The gates were erected in memory of H.V. McKay, seventy years after the invention of the 'Sunshine Harvester'.

**Precinct statement of significance::**

The McKay housing subdivision is of national historical and social significance as the first stage of the suburb created by Australia's leading industrialist and a milestone in the development of the industrial suburb, under the influence of the Garden City movement. Sunshine became a yardstick for planning and housing reformers, with H.V. McKay being regarded as an expert on planned industrial housing. The McKay estate is of regional architectural significance as it marks a crucial phase in the development of Sunshine, housing the resident work force which promoted further industrial development.

The estate is also of historical significance in relation to H. V. McKay's important role in the history of industrial relations in Victoria and Australia, as the provision of housing for his workers was one of the arguments made by McKay in defending the Basic Wages Case which lead to Justice Higgins' "Harvester Judgement".

The group of houses along Forrest Street, Ridley Street, Sydney Street, King Edward Avenue, Anderson Road, Talmage Street and Kororoit Street, represent the type of houses built either by or for company employees, foremen and managers. The houses include major remnants of the large blocks allotted to senior staff of the Sunshine Harvester Works. Most of the houses were set back on their blocks with side drives, rather than rear service lanes, giving an air of spaciousness and permitting large gardens (of which some remnants survive).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Brimbank - Brimbank City Council Post-contact Cultural Heritage Study, G. Vines, 2000;
Construction dates	1954,
Hermes Number	105906
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

### Description

Previously in storage, these ornamental blacksmith-forged and manufactured gates have been re-erected within the McKay residential precinct and at the entry to the Barclay Reserve. They are in the form of a pair of vehicle gates with curved top members and twisted vertical bars, elaborated by corner scroll brackets in alternative patterns and doubled pairs at the bottom level with projecting spike finials. Square iron open posts support the main gates and the smaller side pedestrian gates. A plaque tells how the gates were originally erected by the citizens of Sunshine and the workers at the McKay plant.

## Physical Conditions

### Condition/integrity

Having recently been repaired and re-erected, the gates are in good condition, although some modification has been made during their re-installation.

## Historical Australian Themes

- 8 Developing Australia's cultural life
- 8.7 Honouring achievement

*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/>*