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## Drik Drik Avenue of Honour



Drik Drik 5.jpg



Drik Drik 6.jpg

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### Location

Opposite Drik Drik State School, Drik Drik-Nelson Road,Drik Drik, GLENELG SHIRE

### Municipality

GLENELG SHIRE

### Level of significance

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### Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - February 1, 2001

#### Significant Trees:

Ficus macrophylla, (Moreton Bay Fig) for Context: end of natural range; Historic value: World War 1

Construction dates 1918,

Hermes Number 126795

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

Avenue to commemorate World War 1, Ficus macrophylla, (Moreton Bay Fig), Height about 13 metres, 17 trees.

## Historical Australian Themes

Remembering the fallen

## Physical Conditions

Fair.

## Usage/Former Usage

Commemoration

## Veterans Description for Public

The Drik Drik Avenue of Honour, opposite the State School on Drik Drik-Nelson Road, was planted in 1918 to commemorate the First World War. The avenue consists of about 17 Moreton Bay Figs (Ficus macrophylla), standing at 13 metres high. A stone marker maps the specific trees attributed to each of the servicemen.

In Australia, commemorative trees have been planted in public spaces since the late nineteenth century. Arbor Days were held regularly in most Victorian State Schools during the late 1800s and early 1900s, and numerous trees were planted in parks in Melbourne and throughout Victoria to mark the visits of important and famous people.

This tradition of commemorative planting was continued in 1901 when at the end of the Boer War trees were often planted for each soldier of the district who was killed in South Africa. These plantings, however, rarely consisted of more than two or three trees in each town.

During and after the First World War avenues of honour consisting of trees lining significant streets became a popular form of commemoration. They represented a new egalitarian approach to the commemoration of soldiers where rank was not a consideration: each tree symbolises a person.

Avenues of honour are a uniquely Australian phenomenon. Australians, and in particular Victorians, embraced the idea of planting them more enthusiastically than any other country in the world. The Eurack Avenue of Honour is the earliest known avenue of honour to be planted in Victoria and dates from May 1916.

By the time of the Second World War avenues of honour had declined in popularity as a means of commemoration. Today it is estimated that over 300 avenues of honour have been planted in Victoria to commemorate service personnel since 1901.

*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/>*