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# Bacchus Marsh Memorial Gates Maddingley Park



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## Location

Bacchus Marsh, MOORABOOL SHIRE

## Municipality

MOORABOOL SHIRE

## Level of significance

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## Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

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Construction dates 1890,

Hermes Number 126982

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

Entrance to Maddingley Park, corner Taverner and Grant Streets, Bacchus Marsh.

The elaborately decorated posts, gates and side fences are all cast iron. There is a central pair of vehicle gates with pedestrian gates to either side. The lower half of both gates and the fence is a foliated pattern in panels whilst the upper half is palisades. The gates are painted green. Maker's marks (W Macfarlane and Co., Glasgow) are present in many places on the gate surface. The gates form an impressive statement at the entrance to Maddingley Park and stand adjacent to a street intersection.

## Historical Australian Themes

Remembering the fallen

## Physical Conditions

Both the gates and the fence are in good condition. The lights above the central post have been removed. (August 1988)

Generally the gates and fence are in fairly good condition. The metal appears to be maintained. The metal is currently painted green on the street face and grey/green with bronze coloured highlights on the park face. The paint surface is flaking (<5%) and the bare metal is corroding. This is especially apparent on the edges of the two gates where a large chain is used to secure them closed at night. There are patches of graffiti (<5%) on both sides of the gates/fence. There are many areas of loss of decorative elements from the gates/fence eg the acorn motif has been lost from the top of two posts; one spearhead motif has been lost from the palisade; seven curled sections have been lost from the right hand side (RHS) of the right hand pedestrian gate; four curled sections have been lost from the RHS vehicle gate; six flower motifs have been lost from the left hand side (LHS) vehicle gate etc. Some of the losses are old as the break edge has been painted over, while others are new. Serious casting pits are visible on the lower edge of the vehicle gate. (1996)

## Usage/Former Usage

Memorial entrance gates

## Veterans Description for Public

The Bacchus Marsh Memorial gates serve as the entrance to Maddingley Park, on the corner of Taverner and Grant Streets, Bacchus Marsh. The elaborately decorated posts, gates and side fences are all constructed in cast iron. The Maddingley Park gates were originally located on the north east corner of Orrong and Balaclava Roads as gates to the grounds of a Caulfield mansion. They were probably installed as part of the extensive rebuilding of Judge Billing's old house in 1890 for Alexander William Robertson, a director of the Cobb and Co coaching empire. The gates were cast by Walter Macfarlane's foundry in Glasgow, Scotland.

Maddingley Park, Bacchus Marsh, was established some time in the nineteenth century. When the grounds of the mansion were subdivided, the gates were acquired by the local branch of the Australian Natives Association and re-erected in February 1922 as a First World War memorial. War memorials were erected in large numbers throughout Australia following the Great War. Many were in the form of digger statues and other masonry monuments, while fewer, such as these gates, were of a more utilitarian nature. The memorials reflect the war's huge impact on Australian society at the time.

*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/>*