
Newport Lakes and Trees (Former Newport Quarry)



Newport Lakes and Trees
(former Newport Quarry),
Hobsons Bay Heritage Study
2006

Location

Margaret Street and Graham Street and Perry Street and Bruce Street NEWPORT, Hobsons Bay City

Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO173

Heritage Listing

Hobsons Bay City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The site of the Newport Quarry, now Newport Lakes Park, comprising the land generally bounded by Margaret, Graham, Perry and Bruce Streets in Newport.

How is it Significant?

The site of the Newport Quarry is of local historic and social significance to the City of Hobsons Bay.

Why is it Significant?

Historically, it was significant as the source for much of the bluestone construction in the district in the nineteenth and twentieth century and is now significant as perhaps the only remaining visible example of a large basalt quarry in an area once known across the State for its bluestone supply. It has strong associations with many of the district's contractors who leased parts of its grounds. (AHC criteria A4, B2 and D2)

Socially, it is significant as an important community resource as a major public recreation area for the municipality. (AHC criterion H1)

Heritage Study/Consultant Hobsons Bay - Hobsons Bay Heritage Study, Hobsons Bay City Council, 2006;

Construction dates 1867,

Hermes Number 15105

Property Number

Physical Description 1

Although progressively filled as a tip, from closure of this basalt quarry in the early 1980s, and landscaped for parklands, a considerable extent of quarry face is still recognisable. This takes the form of irregular terraced "boards" or steps on the working face, with some showing the long parallel drill holes from hand hewing building stone, by inserting wedges or "plug and feathers" to break away blocks of stone. Much of the quarry's later output was for crushed stone for concrete, rail ballast and "blue metal". The evidence of extraction for this material is less visible as mechanical equipment and blasting simply shattered the rock.

The historical encroachment of the quarries on the residential area is still apparent along the lane behind Graham Street, and along the south of Percy and Bruce Street, where home owners once had sheer drops of 30 or 40 metres at their back fences. Mature pepper trees grow along the eastern fence line, presumably as a hardy screen from residential areas of the quarry activity.

Integrity

Integrity

Low

Physical Description 2

Context

Surrounded by mainly later housing development.

Historical Australian Themes

Utilising mineral resources, Quarrying

Physical Description 3

Associations

William Hall, Thomas Hoad Hall, Harry Emerton, and Herbert Hamer

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/>