
AVENUE OF HONOUR

Location

Byaduk - Penshurst Road BYADUK, Southern Grampians Shire

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The Byaduk Avenue of Honour stretches west along the Penshurst Road from the intersection with the Hamilton - Port Fairy Road. The avenue consists of 24 *Fraxinus angustifolia* (Claret Ash) planted in a single row of 5 to the eastern part of the plantation, and an avenue on either side of the road to the west extending to the old Mill Bridge. The avenue was planted in 1918 with forty *Grevillia robusta* (silky oak) to form a living memorial to those who served in the First World War 1914-18. Each tree had a memorial plaque at the foot of the tree. In 1957, the memorial plaques were removed and a granite tablet with a bronze plaque was erected to list those who had served. The *Grevillia robusta* (silky oak) were replaced in 1963 with the current *Fraxinus Angustifolia* (Claret Ash).

How is it significant?

The World War One Avenue of Honour is of social and historical significance to the township of Byaduk.

Why is it significant?

The Avenue of Honour in Byaduk is of social significance to the township of Byaduk as a living memorial to all who served in World War One, including those who died and those who survived. The local school teacher wrote of the whole township attending the planting of the original avenue of honour. The planting of the second avenue was also a social activity which was undertaken by the local community in 1963. Historically it represents the attitudes of the township and surrounding district to those who served in the First World War. It is also an important historical reminder to future generations of the sacrifice that those who served made, and of the human loss sustained in this conflict.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1918,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23272
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The physical condition of the *Fraxinus angustifolia* is good to fair. The general condition of the avenue is fair to poor due to the weed infestation and removal of significant specimen trees.

Physical Description 1

The Avenue of honour along the Penshurst Road in Byaduk is a living memorial to those who served in World War One 1914-1918. It is located within the 'memorial precinct' of Byaduk, surrounded by the Mechanic's Institute, the JA Christie Oval, the Peter Christie Reserve, a Monument to the Byaduk Flower Mill, the World War Two and Boer war memorials and a memorial of Byaduk's 150 years. The location is an important historical focus for the township of Byaduk

The avenue has been planted out with *Fraxinus angustifolia* (Claret Ash) in a traditional avenue style, on either side of the road. The avenue is not complete, having a single row of five trees on the south side of the Penshurst Road, alongside the J.A Christie Oval. From the Peter Christie Reserve, the avenue is on both sides of the road extending east for approximately 300 metres. There are 24 trees in all, one of these is less mature than the rest and appears to have been replaced in the 1980s. There is also one young *Grevillia robusta* (silky oak) planted in place of one of the *Fraxinus angustifolia*. This tree may serve as a reminder of the original avenue of honour planted after 1918, which consisted of 40 silky oaks to represent the 40 men who had served in World War One.

For the main part, the trees are set in mown grass, although toward the southern part of the avenue, many woody weeds have self seeded amongst the specimen trees, reducing the visual impact of the avenue. The majority of the *Fraxinus angustifolia* appear to be in good condition.

A bronze plaque is set in a large piece of shaped granite on the western side of the Penshurst Road. This states "Byaduk Avenue of Honour was planted in memory of those men who served in World War 1914-1918". The plaque also lists the name and ranks of those who served.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 8: Developing Australia's cultural life
8.8 Remembering the fallen

Theme 9 - Marking the phases of life
9.7 Dying
9.7.3 Remembering the dead

Usage/Former Usage

Avenue of Honour

Integrity

The integrity of the avenue has been reduced as weed species have overtaken parts of the avenue, there are many trees from the 1963 planting which have died and not been replaced and one side of the eastern part of the avenue has been removed.

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/>