

Dandenong Road London Plane and Canary Island Palm Trees, Armadale, Statement of Significance, March 2022

Heritage Place: Dandenong Road London Plane and Canary Island Palm Trees, Armadale

PS ref no: HO755



(Source: Extent Heritage Pty Ltd, 2021)

What is significant?

The London Plane (*Platanus x acerifolia*) and Canary Island Date Palm (*Pheonix canariensis*) street trees along Dandenong Road, Armadale, otherwise known as the Dandenong Road London Plane and Canary Island Date Palm Street Trees, are significant. Specifically, the uniformity, regular spacing, scale and length of the double row of mature trees, along with the grass median strip and bluestone curb and guttering are of local significance.

How is it significant?

The Dandenong Road London Plane and Canary Island Date Palm Street Trees is of local historical and aesthetic significance to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

The Dandenong Road London Plane and Canary Island Date Palm Street Trees are historically significant as part of a liberal tree planting scheme in 1912-1913, forming part of the interwar trend of street beautification. The planting scheme was a co-operative effort between the then Malvern, Prahran, St Kilda and Caulfield Councils following the completion of the Dandenong Road tramway. The trees were established as a substantial and continuous line of London Plane (*Platanus x acerifolia*) and Canary Island Date Palm (*Pheonix canariensis*) trees through the suburbs of Malvern, Armadale, St Kilda and Windsor. The trees form a tangible link to a period of urban development that solidified Stonnington's reputation as a leafy and tree dense municipality. They also comprise part of one of the longest and oldest interwar street plantings in metropolitan Melbourne. (Criterion A)

The Dandenong Road London Plane and Canary Island Date Palm Street Trees are aesthetically significant as visually prominent and picturesque landscape features along a major arterial road. Key attributes contributing towards their aesthetic significance include the high integrity, maturity, uniformity, regular spacing, scale and formal arrangement of the street trees, as well as the grassy median strips and remnant bluestone curb and guttering. Together, they form an important landmark and streetscape component of the major thoroughfare. (Criterion E)

Primary source

Dandenong Road London Plane and Canary Island Palm Trees Armadale, Citation Report, Extent Heritage Pty Ltd, March 2022.