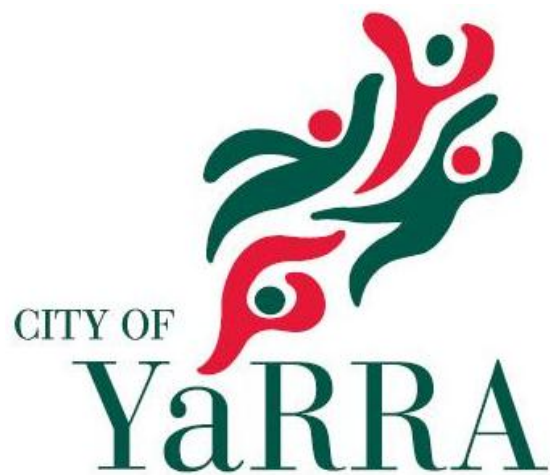


# Significant Tree Criteria for



**Prepared By:**

Homewood Consulting Pty. Ltd.  
150 Junction Road  
Nunawading VIC 3131



## 1. Significance Criteria

Criteria for determining significant trees in the City of Yarra were informed and guided by a number of organisations, including: the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) criteria for identification and classification of significant trees in Victoria; Heritage Victoria criteria for Assessment of Cultural Heritage Significance; the Australian International Charter for the Conservation of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Burra Charter criteria.

### 1.1 Horticultural or Genetic Value

Any tree which is of horticultural or genetic value and could be an important source of propagating stock, including specimens that are particularly resistant to disease or exposure. This could include Australian native, locally indigenous or exotic tree species.

A tree or group of trees that are of ecological or environmental significance. These trees may provide habitat value or contribute significantly to a greater habitat corridor.

A remnant or self sown indigenous specimen. For the purpose of this management plan, the term 'remnant' refers to a mature tree, indigenous to the local area, that is likely to have been present in its location, prior to 1900.

### 1.2 Unique Location or Context

The tree or trees occur in a unique location or context, so as to provide a unique contribution to the landscape. This includes the following categories:

- Historic Garden or Park
- Historic Cemetery
- Important Landmark
- Habitat Trees
- End of Natural Range
- Contribution to Landscape
- Historic Town
- Historic Planting Style
- Environmentally sensitive site (eg. Riparian, wetland)

This may include the blanket inclusion of trees of various sizes in parks such as Edinburgh Gardens, where the significance of the tree(s) relates to the broader landscape context.

### 1.3 Rare or Localised Distribution

Any tree of a species or variety that is rare, or is of very localised distribution. This could include:

A threatened indigenous or endemic species within its locality

- End of natural range
- Disjunct community
- A rare exotic specimen

## **1.4 Particularly Old Specimen**

Any tree that is particularly old or venerable.

## **1.5 Outstanding Size (Girth height spread)**

The outstanding size of a tree will relate specifically to the tree species and may vary considerably depending.

- Height
- Canopy Spread
- Diameter at Breast Height (DBH)

## **1.6 Aesthetic Value**

The tree is a particularly well formed example of the species that is in a location that makes it striking in the landscape. The loss of a tree in this category would result in a substantial change to the local landscape.

## **1.7 Curious Growth Habit**

Any tree which exhibits a curious growth form or physical feature such as abnormal outgrowths, natural fusion of branches, severe lightning damage or unusually pruned forms.

- Abnormal Outgrowths
- Fusion of Branches
- Unusually Pruned
- Unusually Damaged

## **1.8 Historical Significance**

The tree is of importance in the culture and natural history of the City of Yarra. Any tree commemorating a particular occasion, individual or associated with an important historical event may be considered in this category. This includes but is not limited to:

- Cultural Groups
- Important Individuals
- Commemorative Plantings
- Public Feature
- World War I and II
- Avenues of Honour
- British Royalty
- Non-British Royalty
- Visiting Dignitary
- Australian Public Figure
- Victorian Public Figure

## **1.9 Connection to Aboriginal Culture**

A tree associated with aboriginal activities or culture. For example:

- Scarred trees
- Corroboree trees

## **1.10 Outstanding example of species**

Any tree that is an outstanding example of the species at an International / National / State / Regional / Local level or of particular aesthetic value.

## **1.11 Remnant**

Any tree that is likely to pre-date European development of the area. This puts the trees in the region of 150-200 years old.

## **1.12 Outstanding Habitat Value**

The tree is observed to have significant hollows for avian fauna or is clearly being used as a major food source for fauna. The presence of large raptor nests or numerous nests may qualify a tree in this category.

## **1.13 Environmental/Micro-climate Services**

Any tree that provides a significant modification to the local microclimate.

- Providing significant shade or cooling
- Providing green in 'grey' area
- Halting or stabilising environmental degradation processes such as soil erosion, salinity, water table depth
- Acting as a wind break
- Linking canopy cover with other green areas or trees.

## **1.14 Social, cultural or spiritual value**

Any tree that is important to a community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

- Positive community engagement focused around engagement with the tree
- Community sharing of harvest of food tree
- Cultural association and sense of place linked to particular tree
- Spiritual importance to a group of people