

# OLIVE TREES, LEEDERVILLE



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Olive Trees
Other names	
Place type	Trees

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	18765
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 10 Feb 2009

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	1 The Avenue
Locality	Leederville
Survey	LOT: 34 D/P: 53032
Vol/folio	1794/602
Reserve	—

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of significance	<p><b>Moderate</b></p> <p>Contributes to the heritage of the locality. Has some altered or modified elements, not necessarily detracting from the overall significance of the place.</p>
Management category	<p><b>Category 3</b></p> <p>Conservation of the place is desirable.</p> <p>Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place and retain original fabric where feasible.</p>
Statement of significance	<p>The trees have aesthetic value as good intact examples of mature olive trees and are a landmark in the streetscape.</p> <p>The olive trees have historic value for their association with the Panegyres family who were migrants to WA from Greece and contributed to the development of Leederville business and community.</p> <p>These trees are valued by the community for the continuity of its presence in the streetscape which contributes to the community sense of place.</p> <p>The trees have social value for their demonstration of the common practice of migrant families planting fruit trees in a domestic setting.</p>

PLACE USE	
Original use	Trees
Current use	Trees
Other use	Carpark

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Construction date	c1927
Walls	N/A
Roof	N/A
Architectural Style	N/A
Physical description	The tree to the southwest has a multi stemmed trunk, with the smaller tree having a single stemmed trunk. In July 2008 both trees have spreading canopies each estimated to be six metres in width. The trees trunks are gnarled and twisted. The Olive Trees are short and squat, measuring about 12 metres in height, typical of this variety of Olive Tree. Their originally setting in a domestic garden has been completely lost with the advent of the construction of the Mitchell Freeway and adjacent car park.
Condition	Fair
Integrity	Moderate
Authenticity	High

## HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The Olive Trees are believed to have been planted by the Panegyres family, a well-known family in Leederville that migrated to Perth from Kastellorizon, a small island in Greece, in the 1910s. The Panegyres established the Leederville Fish Supply at Oxford Street in the 1920s. The Olive Trees were planted in the backyard of the family home at No. 2 (Lot 7) Woolwich Street, Leederville circa 1927. From a historical perspective, the Greeks regard the olive tree as a symbol of victory and honour. Many of the Panegyres family and social gatherings were held under the olive trees, such as Greek Name Days and pre-wedding activities.

In the 1960s No. 2 Woolwich Street, with the Olive Trees in the backyard, fell within the boundary of the land resumption area under the Mitchell Freeway project. Following the construction of the Freeway, it eventuated that although the dwelling itself was demolished to allow for the construction of Leederville Parade, the rear of the block where the olive trees were located was spared. These two Olive Trees now form part of the Avenue Car Park.

Aerial photographs from the mid 20th century onwards show the aforementioned demolition of the residences in the area and the growth of the surrounding streets, Freeway, and shopping centres. The trees remain undisturbed on their corner of land as far as the photographs are able to show.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION		
Historic theme	Peopling WA: Demographic Development Economy: Workers and Working Cultural Life: Domestic Life	
Associations	Panegyres family	Owners and planters
Sources	Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006 Landgate Aerial photographs 1953-2024.	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



ARCHIVAL IMAGES



*Overlay of 2024 aerial photograph and 1952 sewerage Plan. Courtesy SROWA cons 4156 item 0141.*