

# HYDE PARK, HIGHGATE



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Hyde Park
Other names	Third Swamp Third Swamp Reserve
Place type	Urban Park

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	4634
State Heritage Register:	30 Oct 1998
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 13 Nov 1995

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	505 William St
Locality	Highgate
Survey	LOT: Y/288 D/P: 41439
Vol/folio	1454/634
Reserve	—

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of significance	<p><b>Exceptional</b></p> <p>Essential to the heritage of the area. Rare or outstanding example. Consider for nomination for State Register of Heritage Places if not already included.</p>
Management category	<p><b>Category 1</b></p> <p>The place should be retained and conserved. Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place and be in accordance with a Conservation Plan if one is in place.</p>
Statement of significance	<p>The place is important for its collection of mature introduced trees, in particular the Plane Trees (<i>Planatus acerifolia</i>), encircling the lakes, the Moreton Bay Figs (<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>) and Port Jackson Figs (<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i>) in the lawn areas, the Pines (<i>Pinus</i>) around the boundaries and the Jacarandas (<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>) in the south-east corner. The more unusual species include the Swamp Cypress (<i>Taxodium distichum</i>), Red Cedar (<i>Toona australis</i>) and Bunya Pine (<i>Araucaria bidwillii</i>) and remnant indigenous flora (<i>Eucalyptus</i> and <i>Melaleuca</i>)</p> <p>The place is important as an example in good condition and with a high degree of integrity of the Arcadian landscape style as applied to a large public park.</p> <p>The place is strongly identified and highly valued by the local and regional community as a venue for passive recreation, social interaction and as a venue for fairs, festivals, public and private ceremonies.</p> <p>The place has scientific and historic importance as a remnant of the former chain of wetlands that extended north of Perth and as an example of the development of these wetlands as public parks at the end of the nineteenth century.</p>

SIGNIFICANCE	
<b>Statement of significance</b>	<p>The place is important for its association with the Aboriginal tribes who lived there prior to and during the early years of European settlement and with the early European settlers including miners en route to the Kalgoorlie goldfields who also camped there.</p> <p>The place is important as a source of aesthetic and recreational enjoyment for the community</p>

PLACE USE	
<b>Original use</b>	Park/Reserve
<b>Current use</b>	Park/Reserve
<b>Other use</b>	

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
<b>Construction date</b>	1897
<b>Walls</b>	N/A
<b>Roof</b>	N/A
<b>Architectural Style</b>	N/A
<b>Physical description</b>	<p>Hyde Park is a well established park bounded by Vincent, Glendower, Throssell and William Streets. Its lake feature has been divided into two basins with islands, surrounded by mature London Plane trees. Numerous other mature trees are spread throughout the park, including Moreton Bay Figs and Port Jackson Figs in the lawn areas, Pines around the boundaries and Jacarandas in the south-east corner. Other plantings include Swamp Cypress, Red Cedar, Bunya Pine and remnant indigenous Eucalyptus and Melaleuca. Each portion of the lake has an island occupied by breeding birds</p>

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
<b>Physical description</b>	<p>The park contains a network of pathways, BBQ facilities and children's playground equipment. Hyde Park was established in the Arcadian style of landscape design, which attempts to recreate an idyllic rural landscape, featuring gently undulating grassed areas, irregular groups of large trees, winding pathways, irregularly shaped shrubberies and natural water bodies. Landscaped parkland, tree lined lakes and meandering paths. Recent additions of limestone-edged planter beds and ornate paving depart from the original Arcadian style.</p>
<b>Condition</b>	Good
<b>Integrity</b>	High
<b>Authenticity</b>	High

### HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Prior to 1930s, the Wise's Post Office Directories list Hyde Park as at Vincent Street whilst from that year the place is listed under William Street. In the 1960s, the Park was refurbished with new play equipment, water playground, barbecues, picnic areas, improved lavatory facilities, lighting and upgraded pathways. A resurgence of use saw the first Hyde Park Festival held in 1968. The last Festival was held in 1985 but a more limited Hyde Park Fair was resurrected a few years later and continues to be held annually. The Park is a popular venue for other community events, social gatherings and private ceremonies such as weddings.

On 6 January 1977, Perth Town Lot Y228 was granted to the City of Perth as freehold land to be used and held solely for recreation purposes. It was transferred to the Town of Vincent under the same conditions on 11 April 1995. In 1998 Hyde Park was placed on the State Register of Heritage Places. In June 2003 a Conservation Plan was prepared for the Park which provides a detailed documentary and physical evidence of the Park, and recommendations to guide any redevelopment and changes to the Park in line with its cultural heritage significance. In 2007, the Town of Vincent Council resolved to approve the design of the Hyde Park Stage. This stage proposal was also supported by the Heritage Council. As of 2024, the City of Vincent Council plans to upgrade the eastern playground, set to begin in 2024 and 2025.

Recent discoveries of the introduced 'Shot Hole Borer' insect within Hyde Park has led to discussions about the future management of infected trees in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture.

Aerial photographs from the mid 20th century onwards indicate that the park has changed little since that time, with the exception of the aforementioned playground and recreation area additions. There has been some landscaping and creations of garden beds in the 2010s but overall the grounds have not changed since 1953.

### HISTORICAL INFORMATION

<b>Historic theme</b>	Cultural Life: Recreation - Sport Cultural Life: Recreation - Arts, Cultural and Entertainment Social Services: Health Peopling WA: Demographic Development	
<b>Associations</b>		
<b>Sources</b>	Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006. P4634 Hyde Park Assessment Documentation, DPLH, 1998.	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



ARCHIVAL IMAGES



Hyde Park, 1914. Courtesy SLWA image b4302922\_1.



Hyde Park, 1914. Courtesy SLWA image b4302922\_2.



Hyde Park, 1972. Courtesy SLWA image b4569300\_3.