



ACT Heritage Council

Entry to the ACT Heritage Register

Heritage Act 2004

20002. City Hill

Section 34 and all the land enclosed by the outer perimeter of the Vernon Circle road reservation

CITY

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This entry which was previously part of the old heritage places or the old heritage objects registers (as defined in the **Heritage Act 2004**), as the case may be, is taken to be registered under the **Heritage Act 2004**.

Conservation Requirements (including Specific Requirements), as defined under the **Heritage Act 2004**, that are contained within this document are taken to be Heritage Guidelines applying to this place or object, as the case may be.

Information restricted under *the old heritage places register or old heritage objects register* is restricted under the **Heritage Act 2004**.

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2. City Hill [V26]¹

Location

District of Canberra Central, Division of City Hill, Section 34, and all that land enclosed by the outer perimeter of the Vernon Circle road reservation, as identified in Figure 2 and indicated on the Territory Plan Map by the Heritage Places Register Overlay H2.

Features Intrinsic To The Heritage Significance Of The Place

The place comprises:

- a) all grassed areas;
- b) six axial plantings of *Cupressus sempervirens* 'Stricta';
- c) eleven oval shaped groups of *Cupressus sempervirens* 'Stricta';
- d) all groups of *Pinus radiata* between the axial plantings;
- e) plantings of *Robinia pseudoacacia*; and
- f) the metal flagpole in its existing location.

Statement Of Significance

City Hill has historic and aesthetic significance and represents an important element of urban design and an integral component of Griffin's plan. It is a generating point for the major avenues of Civic and its plantings provide visual corridors for those avenues.

Aesthetically, City Hill provides an important landscaped open space within the Central Business District and enables views of the key topographical elements of the city to be seen from the Hill. The trees also provide a vertical element and together with the flagpole are a landmark for the city.

The plantings also have historical significance due to their association with T C G Weston, Canberra's first Superintendent of Parks and Gardens.

City Hill is also of local historical importance because of its association with the first visit of a reigning British monarch to Canberra.

Specific Requirements

In accordance with s.54(1) of the *Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991*, the following requirements are identified as essential to the retention of the heritage significance of the place;

- i) The landscape qualities of City Hill are to be retained as an important element of Canberra's planning.
- ii) The integrity of the plantings is to be retained by replacing all dead or damaged trees with the same species after thorough research of the original design.

¹ [V26: Added to Heritage Places Register 09/12/1994 (Variation Number 26)]

- iii) Access to City Hill by pedestrians is to be encouraged.
- iv) A commemorative plaque outlining the contribution to City Hill of Walter Burley Griffin's geometric design for the capital city and acknowledging T C G Weston's plantings may be set on the hill.
- v) Any proposals to alter any aspect of City Hill shall be referred to the Heritage Council of the ACT for comment prior to detailed planning and commencement of works.

Figure 2: City Hill

