

The Adelaide Park Lands Place ID 105758 Comments supporting National Heritage Listing

The Adelaide Park Lands are Australia's second oldest*, largest and most accessible public urban park. Within their boundaries are over 60 listings on the Register of the National Estate. The Park Lands have seen historic events of national significance which have laid the foundation of industry, cultural tradition and government policy. The plan of Adelaide with the surrounding Park Lands was used a model for 249 of 370 government townships in South Australia and the Northern Territory and has significance at the international level for its role in the history of town planning. There are trees in the Park Lands of national significance planted on Australia's first Arbor Day and olive groves, which helped found Australia's olive industry. Following 40 years of controversy Australia's first crematorium was built in West Terrace Cemetery, Australia's oldest cemetery in current use. Within the Park Lands are the Adelaide Botanic Gardens and Botanic Park. Palm House, Australia's second oldest conservatory; The Museum of Economic Botany, the only one like it in Australia, and the Adelaide Bicentennial Conservatory, the largest single span conservatory in the southern hemisphere are in the Gardens. In 1880 Botanic Park was the site of Australia's first meeting of the Salvation Army and the Labor Regulation League, predecessor of the Australian Labor Party met there in the 1890's. Our Victoria Park Grandstands may be Australia's finest (and possibly oldest) 19th century grandstands and there is Adelaide Oval, the World's most picturesque cricket ground. More recently Victoria Square was the scene of the first raising of the Aboriginal flag in Australia. There are additional topics as well in the following pages.

*Hyde Park Sydney 1810 still being assessed.

Two attachments to be read in conjunction with this paper are provided for your assessment.

1. A table of Australian Urban Parks comparing size, age and heritage listings with explanatory notes.
2. Adelaide Parklands for World Heritage August 2001 Submission to the SA House of Assembly Select Committee on Adelaide Parklands Protection
This will be referred to as the World Heritage paper in the following pages.

I look forward to the Council's positive assessment of our Parklands listing with appreciation.

Yours sincerely

Kyle Penick
Adelaide Parklands Preservation Association Inc