

**WORLD WAR ONE MEMORIAL, HALLIDAY PARK, MITCHAM RD, MITCHAM**

<b>Building:</b>	World War One Memorial	<b>HO No</b>	255
<b>Address:</b>	Halliday Park Mitcham Road, Mitcham	<b>Melway Map Ref:</b>	48 J7
<b>Building Type:</b>	memorial	<b>Construction Date:</b>	1922
<b>Architect:</b>	not applicable	<b>Builder:</b>	not applicable

**History**

The World War One Memorial was unveiled in Mitcham on 15 October 1922 by Lord Stradbroke, the Governor of Victoria.<sup>68</sup> It was originally erected on Whitehorse Road, west of the Mitcham Road intersection, and took the form of a white marble bugler, with bugle to his lips and set on a granite base.<sup>69</sup> A similar statue had been erected in Whitehorse Road, Box Hill in February 1922 by the Nunawading Shire Council.<sup>70</sup> The Mitcham memorial indicates that of those men from Mitcham who served, 22 were killed.

The statue was erected in a grassed and fenced memorial reserve in Whitehorse Road,<sup>71</sup> largely due to the initiative of the Welcome Home Association, in particular its secretary, Miss Clarissa McClelland 'who took the liveliest interest in the movement, and proved herself to be a great worker in the cause'.<sup>72</sup> The memorial was complemented by an avenue of trees planted by children from Mitcham State School, which were variously cut down and replaced as the safety of Whitehorse Road was improved.

The widening of Whitehorse Road in the 1960s resulted in the relocation of the memorial to a the median strip in front of the Mitcham Memorial Hall at the north-east corner of Whitehorse

<sup>68</sup> *The Argus*, 16 October 1922, p 6

<sup>69</sup> *The Argus*, 16 October 1922, p 6

<sup>70</sup> *The Argus*, 20 February 1922, p 8

<sup>71</sup> Photograph in D Sydenham, *Windows on Nunawading*, p 54

<sup>72</sup> *Blackburn and Mitcham Reporter*, 20 October 1922, as quoted in D Sydenham, *Windows on Nunawading*, p 54

Road and McDowall Street.<sup>73</sup> In March 1988 it was relocated to its present site in Halliday Park in Mitcham Road which was developed on land purchased in 1936.<sup>74</sup> It has been suggested that this site was intended for this use when planned in 1936.<sup>75</sup> In 1996 the area around the memorial was redeveloped with bluestone walls, gardens, an avenue of trees and flagpoles.

The memorial was later rededicated to the memory of those who served in World War Two and wars in Korea, Malaya and Vietnam.

### Historical Themes

#### *City of Whitehorse Themes*

5 Institutions

5.6 Meeting places and local organisations

#### *Victoria's Themes*

2 Peopling Victoria's places and landscapes

2.8 Fighting for identity

8 Building community life

8.5 Preserving traditions and commemorating

### Description

The Mitcham World War One Memorial is now located in a highly visible location in Halliday Park, Mitcham Road. It is situated in an extensive, formally designed, space which incorporates flagpoles, bluestone walls, gardens and tree avenues.

The memorial is a white marble bugler, with bugle to his lips, which is set on a grey granite pedestal and two stepped bluestone base. A Bronze insignia of Australian Commonwealth Military Force is fixed to the granite block directly below the statue. Four commemorative plaques from the Mitcham R.S.L. are set in the surrounding pavement. These commemorate World War Two and the wars in Korea, Malaya, Vietnam.

The front inscription reads:

For God King and Country  
1914-1919  
Erected by  
Mitcham Welcome Home Association  
To all who served and gave their lives  
In the Great War  
"Lest We Forget"

The names of the 22 who died are inscribed on the front of the pedestal. A granite memorial has been added to the front of the plinth, containing the names of the 16 men who died in World War Two. The names of 103 men from the district who enlisted in World War One are inscribed on the other three faces of the memorial. An Aleppo Pine, descendent of the original Lone Pine of Gallipoli, has been planted in the surrounding area.

### Comparative Examples

#### *City of Whitehorse comparisons*

A number of war memorials have been erected in the City of Whitehorse. These include a South Africa and China War memorial, three World War One memorials and a World War Two memorial.

<sup>73</sup> D Sydenham, *Windows on Nunawading*, p 56

<sup>74</sup> D Sydenham, *Windows on Nunawading*, p 223

<sup>75</sup> *Nunawading Gazette*, 23 March 1988

Comparison can be made with the other World War One memorials which are presently located at Box Hill Gardens, Box Hill and Morton Park, Central Road, Blackburn. Like the Mitcham memorial, these memorials have been relocated from sites along Whitehorse Road, in Box Hill and Blackburn respectively.

The Box Hill memorial was established in February 1922, eight months before the memorial in Mitcham. These two memorials both include marble statues of World War One buglers with bugles to their lips. Although of slightly different design, both statues are placed on grey granite pedestals which are engraved with the names of the fallen and in Mitcham's case, enlisted servicemen. Both memorials have been re-dedicated to those who fought in later conflicts.

The Blackburn War Memorial is of different design, consisting of a granite obelisk and engraved pedestal with the names of the fallen servicemen. This memorial has been re-dedicated to those who fought in later conflicts.

The South Africa and China War Memorial was erected in 1902 and takes the traditional form of a red polished obelisk. Initially located at the corner of Whitehorse Road and Station Street, this memorial has been relocated to its present position. The inclusion of lamps and drinking fountains adds a distinctive character to the memorial.

The World War Two Memorial has been relocated to the Box Hill Gardens from its original position in front of the Box Hill Town Hall. It has been designed in a less traditional manner and consists of a red granite wall and a bronze statue of a soldier carrying a wounded comrade to one side.

#### *State comparisons*

The use of a statue of a soldier as a memorial was second only to the commonly used obelisk. There are therefore many representations of a man of the Australian Infantry Forces, in different poses, throughout Victoria. However there are few examples of identical statues of buglers holding their bugles to their lips and these are located in country Victoria, at Yinnar, Quambatook and Swanpool.

#### **Significance**

##### *What is significant?*

The World War One Memorial, Halliday Park, Mitcham was originally located in Whitehorse Road, Mitcham. It was unveiled in October 1922 to commemorate the service of local men in World War One from 1914 to 1918 and into 1919, and is in the form of a marble bugler, with his bugle raised to his lips. The memorial was relocated to its present position in 1988.

##### *How is it significant?*

The World War One Memorial, Halliday Park, Mitcham has historical, aesthetic and social significance to the City of Whitehorse.

##### *Why is it significant?*

The World War One Memorial, Halliday Park, Mitcham is of historical significance as it commemorates the participation of local residents in World War One. Its associations with this war are of great importance to the community due to the profound impact it had on Australian society. [Criterion A]

The World War One Memorial, Halliday Park, Mitcham is of aesthetic significance as a well executed and intact memorial and as a relatively rare representation of a bugler. [Criterion D]

The World War One Memorial, Halliday Park, Mitcham is of social significance as a local landmark which is important to the community as a place of tribute and reflection. [Criterion G]

### Recommended Extent of Overlay

The war memorial and 1 metre surrounding it.

### References

*The Argus*, 16 October 1922, p 6; 'Mitcham War Memorial'

A Lemon, *Box Hill*, Box Hill 1978

D Sydenham, *Windows on Nunawading*, North Melbourne 1990

*War Memorials of Victoria. A Pictorial Record.* 1994

K S Inglis. *Sacred Places. War Memorials in the Australian Landscape.* Melbourne 1998

Victorian War Heritage Inventory: [www.dpced.vic.gov.au/...heritage/victorian-war-heritage-inventory2](http://www.dpced.vic.gov.au/...heritage/victorian-war-heritage-inventory2)

[www.msk.id.memorials2](http://www.msk.id.memorials2)

Heritage Victoria Database

### Historical Images



Memorial in original location, Whitehorse Road, from D Sydenham, *Windows on Nunawading*, p 54



Anzac Day ceremony 1950 before relocation, from D Sydenham, *Windows on Nunawading*, p 56