Melton Planning Scheme

Incorporated Document

Staughton Infant Grave:
Statement of Significance, April 2019

This document is an incorporated document in the Melton Planning Scheme pursuant to section 6(2)(j) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987
Staughton Infant Grave Statement of Significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heritage Place</th>
<th>PS ref no</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staughton Infant Grave 430-458 Exford Road, Weir Views 35A Astley Drive, Strathtulloh (SPI: RES2:PS422772)</td>
<td>HO130</td>
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What is significant?

The grave at 430-458 Exford Road, Weir Views and 35A Astley Drive, Strathtulloh (SPI: RES2:PS422772), and its associated setting including the nearby copse of trees and the view to the valley of Toolern Creek to the east. The gravestone is comprised of a rectangular basalt base with a bevelled upper surface, surmounted by a remnant piece of white marble (likely to have originally been a cross) bearing a carved inscription – ‘Died 11th October 1880 aged 9 months and 20 days’. The grave is almost certainly that of infant Rupert Werribee Staughton, the fourth child of Harry Werribee and Anna Maria Staughton who owned the Exford Estate.

How is it significant?

The grave is of local historical, rarity and representative significance to the City of Melton.

Why is it significant?

The grave is historically significant as one of a few, but nonetheless rare, isolated marked graves in the Municipality with its original gravestone and in its original location. It is also the only known infant grave. It has strong associations with the prominent Staughton family, and the grave site is located on land that until recently was associated with the Exford Estate. (Criteria A & B)

The small basalt and marble gravestone is of representative significance for being a partly intact and original example. The base, a small basalt plinth, remains intact however the marble component, likely to have been a cross, has been broken. (Criterion D)

Primary source
City of Melton Heritage Assessments Project 2018: Findings, RBA Architects and Conservation Consultants (November 2018)