

Item name: Survey Tree 47

Location: Road Reserve Timbarra Road and Tablelands Road Timbarra

Tenterfield

Address: Road Reserve Timbarra Road and Tablelands Road

Planning: Northern

Suburb/nearest town: Timbarra

Local govt area: Tenterfield

State: NSW

Parish:

County:

Other/former names:

Area/group/complex:

Group ID:

Aboriginal area:

Curtilage/boundary: On the corner of Timbarra Road and Tablelands Rd road reserve adjacent to former Portion 47 DP 751469.

Item type: Landscape

Group: Exploration, Survey and Even

Category: Blazed Tree

Owner: State Government

Admin codes:

Code 2:

Code 3:

Current use: Historic Surveyor's Blazed Tree

Former uses: Surveyor's Blazed Tree

Assessed significance: Local

Endorsed significance: Local

Statement of significance: This Survey Marker tree is historically significant as it demonstrates early European land settlement history. It is clearly shown on the historical Parish Map as a survey point on the corner of Timbarra Road. This area once formed part of the historic Timbarra Gold Fields. This tree is part of the boundary survey points for portion or lot 47, Parish of Blossome, which has been owned by the Petrie family for four generations. The marker tree demonstrates aesthetic significance showing the methods and techniques available at the time for marking locations and boundaries of land. The marker tree is likely to hold social significance to the Timbarra rural community. It is rare locally and representative of other survey marker trees used throughout the state, which are becoming rare due to impacts of age and decline, fires, clearing and general attrition. It should be carefully protected from traffic by appropriate fencing.

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Historical notes Local Historical Background

of provenance: A number of Aboriginal groups occupied the Tenterfield area at the time of European contact, including the Badjalang people (Bundjalung), from the headwaters of the Clarence and Richmond Rivers to Tabulam and Baryugil; Kitabal (Githabul, a dialect group of the Bundjalung) whose territory included Urbenville, Woodenbong and Tooloom, south to Tabulam and Drake; and the Ngarabal, people who traditionally occupied the land from Bolivia to Stonehenge. The Jukambal people were known for historic seasonal movement through the shire.

European exploration to the region started in the early 1800s dominated by major pastoralists with land controlled by Governor Macquarie. By 1836 the first squatting licences were issued and the 1862 Land Acts, then enabled the free selection of unalienated land by selectors. Early homesteads often included a complex of buildings with their own butchers, bakers and blacksmiths. Closer settlement occurred during the 19th century with the Returned Soldiers Settlement Act 1916 which allowed larger estates to be cut up for smaller family farms.

A network of crown villages and reserves was laid out by Government surveyors, although some never developed beyond early mining settlements. Evidence of the gold, silver, tin, silica and arsenic mining history of the region is evident in many locations. The completion of the railway line to Tenterfield in 1886 boosted the development of Tenterfield as a regional centre and the development of smaller villages on the route such as Bolivia and Sandy Flat.

Early industries were developed for processing of agricultural products for local use and economic gain. Meatworks, flour mills, and bakeries are still evident from these early days whilst other processes such as brickworks and timber mills may now yield only archaeological evidence.

The township of Tenterfield boomed between 1870s and 1930s, with the development of the School of Arts, several large hotels, banks and a majestic Post Office. A Victorian complex of police station, courthouse and gaol were added to the town. The town is well known for its association with Henry Parkes and the foundation of the Federation of Australia movement. The development of accommodation, commerce, education and health, religion, and leisure are all illustrated by a variety of original buildings and sites throughout the area. The impact of politics and economic tariffs by Queensland, triggered developments such as the tobacco industry from the 1930s.

Tenterfield has strong association with defence through early recruiting and cavalry training. During World War 11, Tenterfield was a location for large military encampments and evidence still exists of some significant structures such as the Tank Traps and several drill halls.

In terms of economy, traditional processing and local manufacturing has declined in recent decades due to centralisation. The Tenterfield area has developed an increasingly important economic role with more service industry, and as a tourist destination based on its high altitude location, abundant natural heritage in the varied national parks and reserves, and its appealing collection of well conserved historic buildings from the 19th and 20th centuries.

SURVEY TREES

During early settlement, Surveyors used a system of permanent markers such as Blazed trees to mark the boundaries or positions. These trees were typically marked by cutting the bark in a shield or blaze, and chiselling a government broad arrow and the relevant portion number on the scar. The retention of early survey trees is important and especially where trees are subject to deterioration due to age, wood decay, fire and clearing practices.

Information of the Registrar Generals in relation to Blazed trees states;

'Trees located on parcel corners were blazed on all four sides, while trees located within one metre of the boundary line were blazed on both sides at right angles to the boundary. Reference trees were usually marked within 30 m of each corner with a large blaze inscribed with a broad arrow and the portion number. Overgrown blazed trees are generally evident by a 'bump' in the external bark, and a quick cut will reveal both the old blaze and a 'mirror-reverse' shield. Stumps of trees will also often show evidence of a blaze'.

This Item

This area formed part of the Timbarra Gold Fields which were mined from the 1850s until reserves were depleted. The area still holds some associations with mining, and in the 1990s, was developed by Ross Mining.

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This is no longer in operation and was a controversial activity at the time. Surrounding land is used for forestry and pastoral activities.

Themes: **National theme**
3. Economy

State theme
Exploration

Local theme

Designer:

Builder:

Year started:

Year completed:

Circa: No

Physical description: Survey Blaze tree approximately 20 metres in height. Eucalyptus pilularis – Blackbutt with distinctive survey shield cut out of the bark and the Blaze mark of Portion 47 painted in yellow. Located on corner of Timbarra Rd and Tablelands Road possibly on Crown Land or on the perpetual lease. Denotes the edge of Portion 47. This Blackbutt tree is one of few or the only one on the road.

Physical condition level: Good

Physical condition: Tree appears healthy.

Archaeological potential level:

Archaeological potential Detail:

Modification dates:

Recommended management: Carefully conserve the tree and protect from traffic with a suitable post and rail fence which is visible, ie painted white.

Consider an archival recording of the tree, in case of serious decline of physical condition.

Management: **Management category**

Management name

Further comments: Carefully conserve. The tree is significant and a protective barrier should be erected around it to guard against any possible damage from traffic.

An archival recording is recommended before the tree deteriorates. A relocation of the original to a controlled environment such as local museum could be considered as a long term option with a replica put in place in the future.

Criteria a): This Survey Marker tree is historically significant as a reminder of early European land settlement history. This tree is part of the boundary survey points for Portion or Lot 47, Parish of Bloxsome, which has been owned by the Petrie family for four generations. It is clearly shown on the historical Parish Map as a survey point on the corner of Timbarra Road and this area historically formed part of the Timbarra Gold Fields.

Criteria b): The land holds associations with the former Timbarra Gold Fields and has been in the Petrie Family for 4 generations.

Criteria c): The marker tree demonstrates aesthetic significance showing methods and techniques available at the time for marking locations and boundaries of land.

Criteria d): The marker tree is likely to hold social significance to the Timbarra rural community .

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Criteria e): The marker tree is a remaining physical legacy of early European land settlement history.
[Research significance]**Criteria f):** It is rare locally.
[Rarity]**Criteria g):** It is representative of other survey marker trees used throughout the state which are in decline due to age, fires, clearing and general attrition. A significant border survey tree exists in the Shire at Jennings and is protected under a covered awning.
[Representative]**Intactness/Integrity:** Intact.

References:	Author	Title	Year
	NSW Registrar General	Rural Boundaries	2021
	Dr Peter Spooner & Jake Shoard	Heritage Survey Trees	2013
		pers. comm B.Petrie resident and Councillor TSC.	2020

Studies:	Author	Title	Number	Year
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Parcels:	Parcel code	Lot number	Section number	Plan code	Plan number
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Latitude:		Longitude:		
Location validity:		Spatial accuracy:		
Map name:		Map scale:		
AMG zone:		Easting:	Northing:	
Listing:	Name	Title	Number	ListingDate
		Potential Heritage Item		
Data entry:	Data first entered: 09/03/2021	Data updated: 20/03/2021	Status:	Partial

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Image:



Caption: Blazed Tree 47 Timbarra

Copy right:

Image by: B. Petrie

Image date: 20/04/2018

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345e748b5ffce464e5eb6acc981a936cd77.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345e748b5ffce464e5eb6acc981a936cd77.jpg

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Caption: shield detail

Copy right:

Image by: B. Petrie

Image date: 20/04/2018

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3456406e6c565b346b9a3f98dfc648f86d7.jpg>

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