RECORD OF STATE HERITAGE PLACE

Description and notes with respect to a place entered in the South Australian Heritage Register in accordance with the Heritage Places Act 1993

NAME: Wattle Grove WWI War Memorial (Dardanelles Campaign, also called Gallipoli Campaign)  PLACE NO.: 26394

ADDRESS: ANZAC Centenary Memorial Walk Kintore Avenue, Adelaide SA 5000

Physical Description

The Wattle Grove WWI War Memorial (Dardanelles Campaign, also called Gallipoli Campaign) comprises a granite cross on a polished granite capital that in turn is on a rough-hewn granite pedestal and a two-tier granite base. The Memorial was located off the southern side of South Terrace near the West Terrace/Goodwood Road intersection but was relocated to ANZAC Centenary Memorial Walk adjacent to Kintore Avenue in November 2018.

Statement of Heritage Significance

The Wattle Grove WWI War Memorial is a very early World War I memorial, having been dedicated on 7 September 1915, less than six months after the Gallipoli landing. It is one of the earliest war memorials in Adelaide and South Australia (most monuments were not erected until after the War).

It was dedicated to ‘Australasians’ and therefore included New Zealanders, where most other war memorials were dedicated to Australians or local men who served and/or died. The support within the Adelaide community for its erection within the Wattle Grove (its original location) testifies to the intense support contemporary South Australians had for those fighting at Gallipoli and the impact of the war on the community. The monument’s heritage value is enhanced by its association with Wattle Day which had been inaugurated to demonstrate Australian patriotism.
Relevant Criteria under section 16 of the Heritage Places Act 1993:

(a) it demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State’s history.

The Wattle Grove WWI War Memorial (Dardanelles Campaign, also called Gallipoli Campaign) demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State’s history, especially the impact of World War I in general, and the effect of the Gallipoli campaign on contemporary South Australians in particular.

However, the Wattle Grove memorial was constructed in reaction to the unprecedented loss of Australian lives on the fields of Gallipoli (also known as the Dardenelles). The capital of the memorial bears the inscription Australasian Soldiers Dardanelles April 25th 1915, which by implication associates this memorial with New Zealanders as well as Australian soldiers.

The memorial was erected by volunteers only six months after the Gallipoli/Dardanelles campaign and a year after the outbreak of WWI. Thus the place provides an early record of an event that touched the lives of every South Australian.

Having been originally located within a grove of wattles the memorial was also associated with Wattle Day, which had been inaugurated to demonstrate Australian patriotism.

(d) it is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance.

The Wattle Grove WWI War Memorial (Dardanelles Campaign, also called Gallipoli Campaign) stands out as a representative of World War I memorials because it was constructed so much earlier than other masonry memorials. Unlike the vast majority of Australian war memorials this memorial was built during the War. The War had a devastating effect on the Australian population, and the memorials that were erected during and after the war helped communities to commemorate those who fought and died in battle. Thus, as symbols of memory and respect, they are a class of places with considerable cultural significance for the people of South Australia.

Extent of Listing

The components that are integral to the heritage significance of Wattle Grove WWI War Memorial (Dardanelles Campaign, also called Gallipoli Campaign) include:

- a granite cross,
- a polished granite capital with inscription,
- a rough-hewn granite pedestal and
- a two-tier granite base and brass plaque.
History of the Place

The Wattle Grove War WWI Memorial was unveiled by Governor General Sir Ronald Munro Ferguson on Wattle Day 7 September 1915. At that time it was the centre piece of a memorial garden of wattles located on Sir Lewis Cohen Drive. Wattle Day had been celebrated annually in South Australia, New South Wales and Victoria since 1 September 1910. It was instituted as a day for demonstrating Australian patriotism.

The War Memorial is one of the earliest in Australia, having been dedicated in September 1915 less than six months after the Allied landing on Gallipoli, and barely a year after Australia's declaration of war against Germany. Its dedication at the time reflected the intense patriotism of South Australians.

In October 1940, the War Memorial was moved from its position within the Wattle Grove. By this time the grove had become unkempt. Then in 1969, the memorial was renovated by the City Council when the original stone cross was replaced by another in the same granite that formed the base.

The memorial is significant because of its dedication to those soldiers that served at Gallipoli, rather than all who served and/or died during the whole of World War I as reflected by war memorials erected after 1918.

The memorial was again relocated in November 2018 and is now located at the northern end of the ANZAC Centenary Memorial Walk, Kintore Avenue, Adelaide.

References

The primary source for this Record was:


Refer to the assessment report for more detailed information about the history and references. Additional references are:

### SITE RECORD

**Wattle Grove WWI War Memorial (Dardanelles Campaign, also called Gallipoli Campaign)**

Off South Terrace, Adelaide

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**FORMER NAME:** Wattle Grove War Memorial  
**DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:** Granite War Memorial  
**DATE OF COMPLETION:** 1915  
**SA HERITAGE REGISTER STATUS:** Description: Confirmed  
Date: 23 August 2013  
**LOCAL HERITAGE STATUS:** n/a  
**CURRENT USE:** Description: War Memorial  
Dates: 1915-2013  
**PREVIOUS USE(S):** Description: n/a  
Dates: n/a  
**ARCHITECT:** Name: Walter Torode  
Dates: 1915  
**BUILDER:** Name: Walter Torode  
Dates: 1915  
**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** Description: Adelaide City Council  
**LOCATION:** Unit No.: n/a  
Street No.: n/a  
Street Name: ANZAC Centenary Memorial Walk Kintore Ave  
Town/Suburb: Adelaide  
Post Code: 5000  
**LAND DESCRIPTION:** Title Ref.: CR 6102/717 F38386 Q20  
Hundred: Adelaide
Wattle Grove WWI War Memorial (Dardanelles Campaign, also called Gallipoli Campaign)
Previous location Off South Terrace, Adelaide

PHOTOS

Wattle Grove WWI War Memorial, South Terrace, Adelaide
View to the south
PHOTOS

Wattle Grove WWI War Memorial (Dardanelles Campaign, also called Gallipoli Campaign)  
New location ANZAC Centenary Memorial Walk Kintore Avenue, Adelaide

Wattle Grove WWI War Memorial, ANZAC Centenary Memorial Walk, Kintore Avenue, looking north, note the new base.

Source: DEW Files 12 November 2018
Wattle Grove WWI War Memorial (Dardanelles Campaign, also called Gallipoli Campaign)
ANZAC Centenary Memorial Walk Kintore Avenue, Adelaide