RECENT THREAT

In the last 20 years, a new method of redevelopment has become common, with houses being planned and built speculatively by commercial developers.

These developers tend to build high density flats, or big houses on small blocks, and capitalise on the neighbours' trees for effect.

With this kind of development the large trees are often cut down, or disturbed so that they gradually die several years later. Because of the increased housing density, people are not able to replant and the skyline becomes less treed and has more gaps and patches.

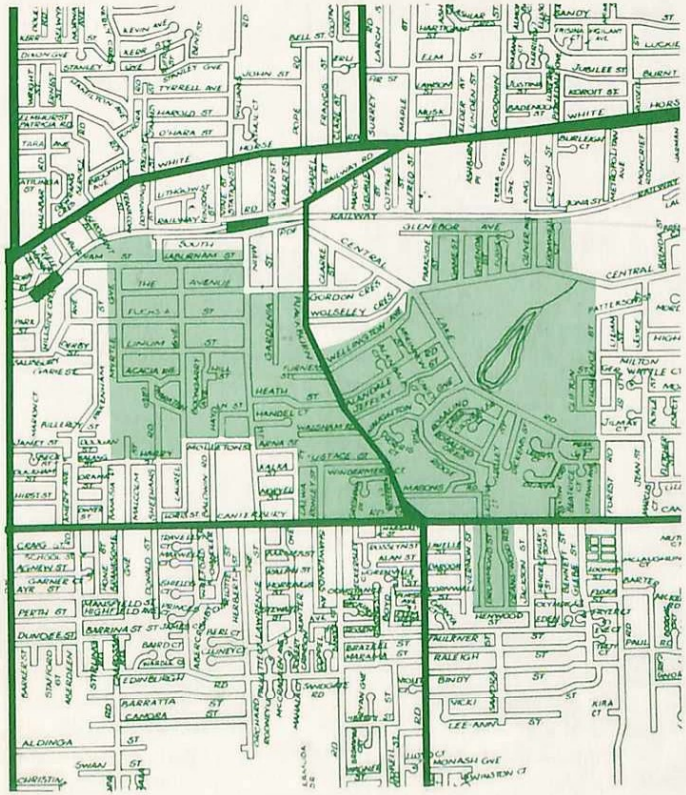
Because there is less of a tree community for protection, more trees break in storms. People begin to fear the taller and older trees.

WE CAN KEEP IT

The Council believes that we can keep this unique environment alive. To do this, we need flexible housing to meet the needs of a wide range of ages, and we must continually replant and manage the large trees so that the present tree cover is maintained in the future.

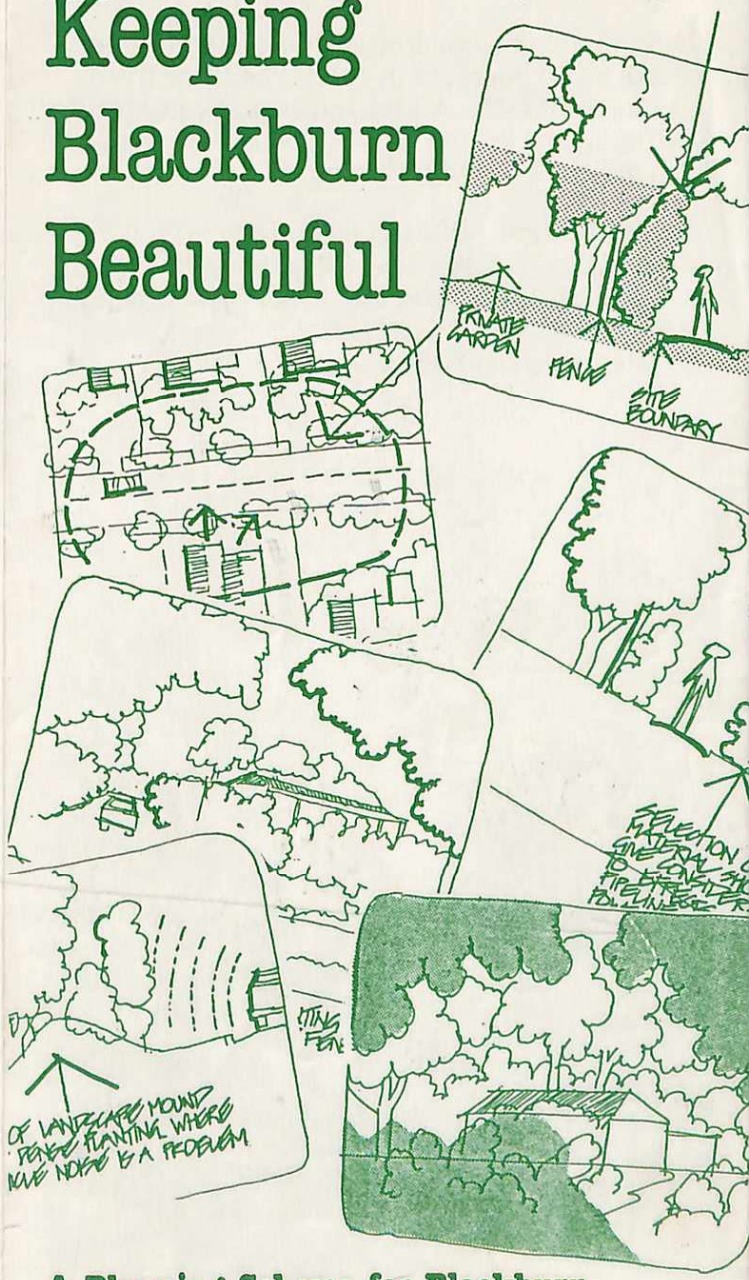
This scheme is designed to guide residents and planners to do just that. But it needs your support and input, so do something for yourself, your family and neighbours by looking at the scheme and saying your piece.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,
CONTACT THE STRATEGIC PLANNING DEPARTMENT
ON 872 9411, OR VISIT THE CIVIC CENTRE**



ND1536

Keeping Blackburn Beautiful

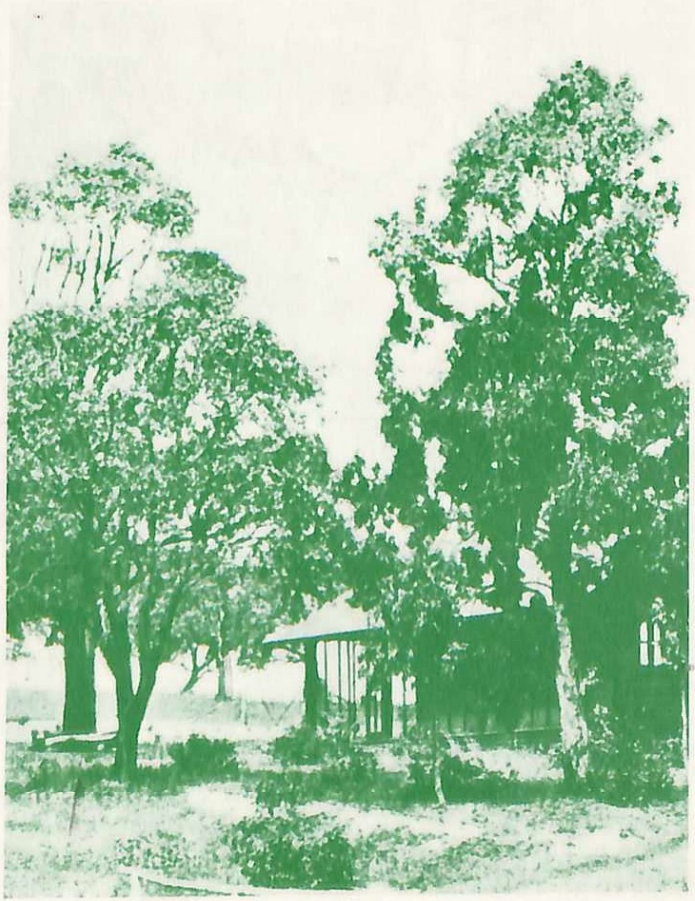


A Planning Scheme for Blackburn

THE CITY OF NUNAWADING

Blackburn has a residential history that goes back over 80 years. Many families have lived here for generations, and the strong community feeling means people like to stay in the area from youth to their retirement.

During the first building boom in the 1920's, much of the housing was designed to blend in with the bushland surroundings. This practice attracted residents with similar ideas, hence the bush character of today.



A distinctive Blackburn bungalow, built in 1912, sited among majestic gums on the crest of a gentle rise. Photograph courtesy A. Taylor.

PLANNING SCHEME

An Advisory Committee composed of residents, planning consultants and a local architect has prepared the draft of a scheme to protect this unique environment.

The Nunawading City Council wants **your** comments, whether they are favourable or not. You don't need a form, just a piece of paper. The details of the scheme are on display at the Civic Centre, and the Central Library and the Blackburn Branch Library until the 17th of April 1984.

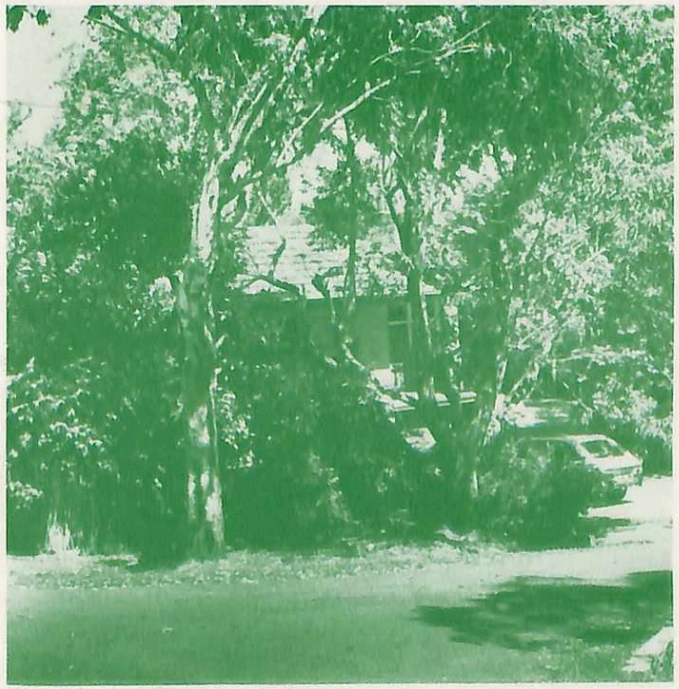
Jot your ideas down, or phone Mr. Ron O'Neill, the Council's Strategic Planner, on 872 9411 before April 13th. Expressions of support are as important as criticisms, for the Council to gauge the community's views.

It's **your** area, so make your mark on it by taking part in this scheme.

THE NATURAL CHARACTER OF BLACKBURN

Because the early settlers kept the mature gums, and those people who followed kept planting over the years, the stock of tall trees forms a peaceful canopy high over the houses.

The average block in Blackburn has 5 or 6 gum trees over 20m (60ft) tall. These are far bigger than in most suburbs and they create Blackburn's unique atmosphere. This and the community feeling make a pleasant environment for all ages and walks of life.



Mature gum trees give shade and colour to the neighbourhood.