

Ficus virens — Banyan

Scientific Name:

Ficus virens

Common Name:

Banyan

Register Number:

20, 21 & 22

Location of Tree:

Chung Wah Society, Bennett Street, Darwin NT

GPS:

-12.46299, 130.8451

Categories of Significance:

Aesthetic

Size

Unique Location

Group

Habitat

Year Listed:

1986



These three *Ficus virens* are remnant peninsular vegetation. A dirt track leading down the hill past them was gradually eroded away during wet season rains, forming a gully down the side of which these trees have sent down many roots.

Mr. Henry Lee remembers playing under these trees as a boy some sixty odd years ago. They feature especially in the Chinese history of this area — used for shade and enjoyment. A Chinese hospital in close proximity was destroyed by an incendiary bomb during the bombing of Darwin by the Japanese in 1942.

They are definitely worth closer inspection because of the intricate way in which the roots have interwoven with the rock face. Hence they serve as erosion controllers as well as enhancing the streetscape.

