
Sheringham Flats



Review of B Graded Buildings
in Kew, Camberwell &
Hawthorn

Location

206-208 Cotham Road KEW, BOROONDARA CITY

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO287

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Sheringham at 206-8 Cotham Road, Kew is of local historical and architectural significance as a representative and generally intact example of a Melbourne apartment design of the 1920s. In its proportions and general bearing it has been designed to resemble a large detached (and therefore 'respectable') house, while using adapted components from contemporary bungalow design. Despite some additions and the redevelopment of the rear of the block, the principal elevations of the original flat block are intact and the block retains its original

fencing.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Review of B Graded Buildings in Kew, Camberwell and Hawthorn, Lovell Chen Architects & Heritage Consultants, 2006; Boroondara - City of Kew Urban Conservation Study, Pru Sanderson Design Pty Ltd, 1988;
Construction dates	1924,
Other Names	Sheringham Flats,
Hermes Number	14604
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Sheringham, at 206-8 Cotham Road at the Atkins Street corner, is a group of originally four brick flats, dating from 1924-5, with walls clad in textured stucco, facing north onto Cotham Road and west onto Davis Street. The design is symmetrical on its north elevation. The main roof is in terracotta tiling in a Marseilles pattern. The main roof mass is a transverse hip with a central chimney. A central bay facing Cotham Road is used to draw the four original flats together compositionally. The bay has a large, flattened gable of bungalow proportions, with four canted bay windows, each with a small flat roof and formed as a timber-framed box assembly. The upper bays are bracketed out from the front wall on diagonal struts, and while the lower bays are supported on deep stuccoed sills. The bay roofs have chains linking them to the wall above each. (This arrangement is repeated with the four canted bays on the side elevations - minus the suspension chains and with the upper bays' brackets being concave, east and west. On the north elevation, two open balcony pairs, positioned under the main transverse roof, flank the central pavilion. Of these, the west facing balcony is glassed in on the Atkins Street side.

The flats are entered from the side at each end of the building, with the upper flats approached by a robust stair in reinforced concrete with masonry balustrading. A landing halfway up each stair fits neatly with the side bay windows, and forms a roof over the two lower bay windows. A smooth rendered course line marks the floor level of the upper flats.

In 2001 the front yard was divided into sections to separate the two pairs of flats and screen the yards from Davis Street and Cotham Road (see n.5, above). This has been done simply, with timber fences clad in horizontal strips. The original rendered brick pillared fence survives (complete with chain sections) and extends around the street frontages of the property.

An additional unit was added at the rear, facing the side street to the south-west in 2002. This new unit, in brick veneer, continued the hipped roof, stuccoed walling, main course line and brick footings of the original building, and is attached to a rebuilt carport. This unit includes a living room, family and dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, study and two bathrooms, and is linked to a fenced off area of the remaining back yard.[i] Fence alterations are listed in Kew's Building Index but no other entries are recorded before Kew's amalgamation into the City of Boroondara.[ii]

[i] See Avi Milder, sketch plans, and the subdivision survey by Neil Webster, dated 11 September 2001. Both are held in Boroondara archives

[ii] City of Kew Building Index, #6626, dated 14 May 1993.

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>