

---

# Mount Ephraim; Edgecombe; Mount Edgecombe



Review of B Graded Buildings  
in Kew, Camberwell &  
Hawthorn

---

## Location

26 Edgecombe Street KEW, BOROONDARA CITY

## Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO297

## Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

---

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

*Edgecombe* (formerly *Mount Ephraim*) is of local historical and architectural significance as one of a relatively limited group of surviving substantial pre-1870s villas and mansion houses in Kew. Though altered through the addition of the portico in the c. 1920s, the replacement of the original slate roof cladding, and rear additions, *Edgecombe* remains a fine and relatively externally intact example of a substantial brick villa of the late 1860s. It is also of historical interest in the local context for its association in the 1880s with Ruyton, one of the better

known girls' schools in the area.

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	1868,
Other Names	Mount Edgecombe, Mount Ephraim, Sometimes known as 24-26 Edgecombe Street, Kew, Edgecombe,
Hermes Number	14615
Property Number	

---

## Physical Description 1

24-26 Edgecombe Street, Kew, is a large double-storey mid-Victorian villa in the Italianate style. The simple hipped roof is clad with glazed terracotta tiles and penetrated by multiple rendered chimneys with moulded caps. The walls are of overpainted ruled ashlar rendered brickwork on a bluestone plinth with moulded string courses. A c.1920s[i] porte-cochère with parapeted balcony and squared columns defines the main entrance to the building which has always been from the north, reflecting the original Studley Park Road address. The north and west elevations are divided into bays by regular and repetitive fenestration; each opening has moulded architraves and contains timber-framed double-hung sashes.

As well as the 1880s additions to the building and the 1920s porte-cochère, more recent alterations include the addition of wrought iron gates to the porte-cochère, the inclusion of a permanent vent into two of the first floor windows of the north elevation, the replacement of the original slate roof cladding with glazed terracotta tiles, the removal of the original fence and landscape and changes to the south and east elevations related to the 1982 nursing home additions. The 1980s additions have recently been demolished and a new residential building is under construction on the southern half of the allotment.

[i] Miles Lewis, Melbourne Mansions Database, 'Mount Ephraim'.

*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/>*