
24 Miller Grove



Review of B Graded Buildings
in Kew, Camberwell &
Hawthorn

Location

24 Miller Grove KEW, Boroondara City

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO527

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

24 Miller Grove, Kew, is of local historical and architectural significance as a fine and broadly externally intact example of an attic style Federation villa featuring a prominent central dormer between two projecting gables. It is an assured and forceful composition which is enhanced by its broadly symmetrical planning.

High Street South Precinct (HO527)

What is significant?

The High Street South Residential precinct developed gradually between the late nineteenth and the first decades of the twentieth century. The development of the area generally relates to the initial horse tramway along High Street in the nineteenth century, followed by the introduction of the electric tram and the subdivision of the Findon Estate in the early twentieth century. The proximity to Kew Junction is also important. Of note are the high number of reasonably intact Victorian and Federation era dwellings, and the interwar dwellings in the western area of the precinct. Buildings within the precinct are typically single and attic storey, double-fronted detached villas. A few larger double-storey villas, terraces and semi-detached dwellings are scattered throughout. Characteristics include the predominant use of brick and roughcast render, and Federation-style villas with prominent, decorative verandahs/porches and pitched terracotta tiled roofs. Interwar housing, in the form of bungalows and attic-storey residences, is primarily found in Henry Street, Bowen Street and the west end of Miller Grove. Specific buildings of individual and contributory significance which are important to the precinct are identified in the attached schedule.

How is it significant?

The High Street South Residential precinct is historically and architecturally significant to the City of Boroondara.

Why is it significant?

Historically, the High Street South Residential precinct is significant for demonstrating the gradual pattern of subdivision and development of Kew from the mid-1870s through to the first decades of the twentieth century. The development on High Street followed a common pattern in the area, with initial development in the later Victorian period, generally close to Kew Junction, followed by a downturn in the 1890s economic 'bust', and then new development in the improving years after the turn of the century. Conversely, development to the west of High Street, including that of the former Findon estate, more readily exemplifies the residential subdivision of large nineteenth century estates in the early decades of the twentieth century. New streets (Miller Grove, Bowen Street and Henry Street) and medium sized allotments were created from a linear-form subdivision in 1913, which were subsequently developed during the late 1910s and 1920s. Despite the drawn out history of development, unifying characteristics of the Victorian and Federation era dwellings, and the later interwar development, include the generally consistent use of brick and overall uniformity of allotment sizes. The generally free-standing houses on generous sized allotments also reflect on the apparent affluence of the original residents and the desirability of the area. Architecturally, the High Street South Residential precinct is significant for incorporating a variety of building types and styles from the Victorian and Federation eras, and interwar period. Dwellings of single and attic storeys, including double-fronted detached villas and some larger double-storey villas, are found in the precinct together with terraces and semi-detached dwellings. Brick and roughcast render are common materials, while double-fronted Federation-style villas stand out due to their prominent, decorative verandahs/porches, including some with highly ornamented timber fretwork, and pitched terracotta tiled roofs. The diagonal alignment of High Street, with dwellings on sharply angled frontages, has encouraged construction of vigorous diagonally-oriented designs with views of side elevations, and entrance and verandah ornamentation. Conversely, the 1920s bungalows in the west of the precinct display a comparatively high occurrence of juxtaposed front gables, rather than the simpler transverse roof type more common elsewhere in Boroondara.

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| 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 | 1913, |
| Hermes Number | 14640 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

The house at 24 Miller Grove, Kew, is an attic-storey double-fronted Federation Queen Anne villa of red brick construction on a bluestone plinth and an essentially symmetrical plan. The gabled roof is clad with non-original concrete tiles and embellished with terracotta finials and ridge cresting, half timbered gable ends with roughcast infill and lattice screens, bracketed flying gables to projecting bays and red brick chimneys with corbelled and rendered caps. A large dormer window with hipped roof, timber shingle cladding and non-original timber-framed windows is located centrally in the roofscape above a partially recessed porch. The porch is reached via a set of bluestone steps and the bellcast roof is supported by timber posts on a brick dwarf wall; the timber fretwork is a recent addition. The facade comprises a pair of projecting bays flanking the central entrance bay and the walls display tuckpointed brickwork with rendered bands. The entrance contains a half-glazed panelled timber door with matching surrounds and timber screen door; the original leaded glazing has been replaced with etched glass. Each projecting bay contains a bay window - one box and one bow - with shingled steel frieze and timber-framed casement sash windows and it would appear that earlier leaded highlight sash glazing has been replaced with clear glass.

Alterations to the exterior are otherwise confined to the rear of the house including a rear addition, carport and the attic windows to the east. The timber picket front fence and gates date from the late 1990s.[i]

[i] Building Permit no. BR/97/52731, dated 6 June 1997, details sourced from the City of Boroondara Building File, 40/408/03416, Part 1.

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/>