

## 899 Toorak Road



Review of B Graded Buildings  
in Kew, Camberwell & Hawthorn

### Location

899 Toorak Road CAMBERWELL, Boroondara City

### Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO404

### Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Provisional Grading - to be reviewed

899 Toorak Road, Camberwell, is of local historical and architectural significance, as a fine and relatively externally intact example of a sophisticated Bungalow design from the early 1920s. Its asymmetrical composition is robust, elegant and powerful, and tending to the abstract in comparison with most local bungalow counterparts.

It is also distinctive for its Japanese character.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Review of B Graded Buildings in Kew, Camberwell and Hawthorn, Lovell Chen Architects & Heritage Consultants, 2006; Boroondara - Camberwell Conservation Study, Graeme Butler, 1991;
Hermes Number	14729
Property Number	

## Physical Description 1

The house could not be described in detail as it is not visible from the street and access was not available during the course of the Review. The following description is based on existing documentation (Camberwell Conservation Study 1991 and drawings) and would need to be confirmed on site.

The house is obscured from the street by a 2.5 metre high stained timber paling fence with galvanized steel gates. The upper section of the main gable, together with the clinker-brick chimney, is visible from the street, along with other elements of the roof. The roof is in its original terracotta tiles, and the gable has its original shingles and pattern of fascias, albeit repainted.

The photograph and description in the 1991 Camberwell Conservation Study [i] show an asymmetrical composition with a bay balanced with a skillion-roofed porch-verandah around a simple clinker brick chimney with a cornice one course thick, in the manner of chimney tops from the bungalow period. The gable is linked to the front wall at the west end with a sheet of shingles applied down past a simple three-light porthole. The gable has a small vent at its top and is supported by a single slender bracket, and is set off by a transverse gable to the rear, on similar shallow gradient to the verandah canopy and the front gable. The shaped rafter points, linear stylization and verandah supports build up a Japanese quality set off by the masonry walls in roughcast stucco cladding and clinker brick, a more consciously European reference echoing the general finish of Arts and Crafts Movement houses. The front door is located on the west side of the house.[ii]

The garden is not visible from the street, though the presence of some mature trees is noted.[iii]

The extent of alteration is unclear. A conversion to a medical centre was proposed in 1994, however the application appears to have been withdrawn.[iv]

[i] G Butler, Camberwell Conservation Study 1991, vol. 4, p. 275.

[ii] As shown on

[iii] Details sourced from the City of Camberwell Building Index, #29538, dated 10 August 1961 (sunroom); #33627, dated 28 August 1963 (garage).

[iv] Later preliminary drawings, n.d., City of Boroondara plan archive. Details sourced from the City of Boroondara Building Index, #40/408/20945, dated 1 February 2001; City of Camberwell Building Index, # 106808, dated November 1994.

*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/>*