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# Westella



Hawthorn Heritage study  
1992

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## Location

39 Kinkora Road HAWTHORN, Boroondara City

## Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO233

HO152

## Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Significance of Individual Property

1. Architecturally significant as one of the best examples of the small mansion houses in Hawthorn, a building form which was initially important in the development of Hawthorn's status as a desirable garden suburb. Amongst the best works of the prolific house designers Beswicke and Coote.

2. Historically significant for its associations from 1890-1908 with Charles Edgerton, printer of the influential journal, *Table Talk*.

3. "Westella", constructed in 1890-91 for Charles Edgerton, printer and politician has historical significance as a fine example of the substantial villas and small mansion houses in garden settings built in the Kinkora Road garden suburb area.

4. One of 3 mansions (39, 41 and 47 Kinkora Road) of similar date , all using the same basic form with startlingly different results .

Architecturally significant for the illustration of the variety of stylistic treatments in the early 1890s in Melbourne.

HO152 Grace Park and Hawthorn Grove Precincts, Hawthorn

The Grace Park and Hawthorn Grove Precincts, Hawthorn, are of heritage significance for the following reasons:

- The place is a concentrated and relatively intact precinct of generally high quality residential buildings of the later Victorian and Federation periods.
- Hilda Crescent has an unbroken set of highly distinctive Federation house designs, and the mode continues in the adjacent streets.
- The area is characterised by mature gardens and street trees, filtering the light in the more southern streets, south of Kinkora Road, and giving the area a distinctive shaded character.
- The diagonal house compositions and curving streets in the Grace Park Precinct combine to create an informal and picturesque character.
- The northern section - Kinkora Road and Hawthorn Grove - has a large concentration of 1880s housing in tighter patterns that are similarly characteristic of that earlier era, and is relatively intact. These streets were the first typically-scaled suburban development in Hawthorn, in contrast to the St James Park area which began as a mansion group.
- The Barkers Road section is more heterogeneous, but does incorporate several notable Federation and Bungalow designs. Clovelly Court is an impressive apartment group utilising garden villa forms, comparing with both the courtyard flats in the Fairview Park Precinct (HO148) and the more similar Corsewall Close (HO149).
- Located at the southern end of the precinct, the Michael Tuck Stand at the Glenferrie Oval is striking both for the way it draws on its red-brick domestic surroundings as it is for its 1938 modernity.
- The precinct is visually unified by the shared, curving park based around the former Kew Railway line, that runs though the entire precinct from south to north and reads as a reminder of the precinct's early popularity as a commuter suburb.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Hawthorn Heritage study 1992, Meredith Gould, Conservation Architects, 1992;
Architect/Designer	Beswicke & Coote,
Other Names	Westella,
Hermes Number	14859
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

A two storey mansion executed in render with a double storey colonnade to one side of the projecting wing. The colonnade is composed of engaged arches supported on Corinthian columns on the first floor, the ground floor is covered by ivy and cannot be seen. The projecting wing incorporates a flat bay. The balustrade to the verandah is carried across this in the render decoration. Paired windows on the first and ground floors have half round or flat arch heads. String courses run through the whole building at sill height, the springing point of the arches (using acanthus leaves) and at first floor level.

The eaves are elaborated with timber brackets and a scalloped fascia. The roof is a simple hipped affair.

A substantial bluestone and cast iron fence defines the property at the front boundary. The render is unpainted.

*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/>*