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## 'Lawn House' (Former)



House at 92 Esplanade  
WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons  
Bay Heritage Study 2006

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### Location

92 Esplanade WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons Bay City

### Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

### Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO116

### Heritage Listing

Hobsons Bay City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The former 'Lawn House', designed and constructed by John Garnsworthy in 1889-90, at 92 Esplanade, Williamstown.

How is it Significant?

The former 'Lawn House' at 92 Esplanade, Williamstown is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the City of Hobson's Bay.

#### Why is it Significant?

Historically, 'Lawn House' is significant as a representative example of the large maritime villas that were erected along the Esplanade and The Strand in Williamstown during the late nineteenth century. It is also significant for its associations with John Garnsworthy who was a prominent contractor and politician in Williamstown. It is also of interest for its later maritime connections, which is typical of residences along the Esplanade. (AHC criteria A4 and G1)

Aesthetically, 'Lawn House' is significant as a locally rare and near original example of an elaborately detailed Italianate villa, which expresses the importance of its original owner. (AHC criteria E1 and F1)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Hobsons Bay - Hobsons Bay Heritage Study, Hobsons Bay City Council, 2006;
Construction dates	1889,
Architect/Designer	Garnsworthy, John,
Other Names	'Lawn House' (former),
Hermes Number	15047
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

'Lawn House' at 92 Esplanade, Williamstown is a double-bay fronted polychrome brick Italianate villa with a slated, hip roof and a return cast-iron verandah which is bayed, around the windows, and gabled over the entrance. Bands of cream and black bricks, cream bay walls and quoins are set against the brown body brick. Typical panelled side and top lights enrich the entrance and there is a Gothic arched window in the verandah end.

Alterations to the original fabric include:

- The replacement of the original front fence (described as being of capped vertical boarding with an iron frieze over) with the present iron picket fence, with a carriage gate pair to one side.
- The replacement of lions with urns at the verandah entrance.
- The removal of the frieze from the verandah (may have since been restored?)
- The removal of a once impressive metal framed, blue glass conservatory has been removed from the east side.

The trim colours are sympathetic to the general period but not to the specific house. Of note is that, like No. 14, the sunflower pattern frieze was painted naturalistically; a three tier fountain with a figure once was located in the garden as were two statuettes (lions) on either side of the steps.

## Integrity

External integrity and condition

*Integrity* - Moderate. *Condition* - Good.

## Physical Description 2

### Context

Although somewhat isolated, it is one of a number of late nineteenth and early twentieth century maritime villas on the Esplanade.

## Historical Australian Themes

Making suburbs

## Physical Description 3

### Associations

John Garnsworthy, Captain D. Doughton, James T Gray

*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/>*