
House



54 Lincoln Road Essendon

Location

54 Lincoln Street ESSENDON, MOONEE VALLEY CITY

Municipality

MOONEE VALLEY CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO494

Heritage Listing

Moonee Valley City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 1900

What is Significant?

The house at 54 Lincoln Road, Essendon, is significant. It was built in c1941 for Clifford Ross Jenkins.

The significant fabric includes the:

original building and roof form, lightly textured rendered brick walls, semi-circular porch and fenestrations;

unpainted brick base and other details such as sills;

glazed terracotta roof tiles and original chimney;

steel framed windows;

curved concrete front path; and

porch detailing including piers with curved-top buttresses, balustrade and steps

The later rear extension and garage is not significant.

How is it significant?

54 Lincoln Road, Essendon, is of local aesthetic significance to the City of Moonee Valley.

Why is it significant?

The house at 54 Lincoln Road, Essendon, is distinguished by its front porch, which brings circular forms to the austere rectangular and triangular forms of the house envelope. The overall form of the house is influenced by the functionalist mode, with smooth planes and corner windows. The porch is an elegant composition with a near circular plan enclosed by semi-circular mild steel balustrades with inset circular patterns. The porch is reached by steps that elegantly curve outwards, with a matching curved railing. The porch roof is a flat concrete slab, a type popular in this era, but it is much larger than usual and has a crisply banded edge. By far the most striking feature of the porch are the two pillars that support it, with curved buttresses creating a stepped ziggurat form like that of a contemporary skyscraper. The curves of the porch are echoed by the curved concrete path that approaches it. (Criterion E)

Heritage Study/Consultant Moonee Valley - Moonee Valley 2017 Heritage Study, Context, 2019;

Hermes Number 202280

Property Number

Physical Description 1

54 Lincoln Road, Essendon, is a single-storey residence with pyramidal hipped roof and rendered brick walls in a restrained Moderne style, sits on a busy north-south road in the northern part of the suburb. The site is almost level and the house is set back at front and south to allow for a modest garden and side driveway. Lincoln Road retains a typical arrangement of footpath and nature strip, and in this vicinity has prominent views south to the imposing bulk of St Therese's Catholic Church (set diagonally on the block to address Lincoln Road and Florence Street).

54 Lincoln Road, Essendon, has an asymmetrical plan with a principal room on the southern frontage projecting slightly and a porch linking this room to a recessed entry and the main building line of the house. The hipped roof of glazed terracotta tiles in shades of red and brown (with ridge tiles to match) provides a standard late interwar appearance to the house. The exterior walls have a base of dark brown bricks with lightly textured cement rendered walls above, punctuated by brown brick windowsills. The window openings are crisply detailed devoid of any decorative mouldings and the simple eaves detail and tall square chimney (unadorned save for a capping of brown bricks set on edge) contribute to the clean lines of the building envelope. The Moderne styling is emphasised by steel-framed windows, with a corner window on the main front room especially characteristic of modern detailing, and hinting (probably more than any other element) at functionalism. Moderne touches are also apparent in the front steps, porch, and recessed entry. The flat-roofed semi-circular porch roof, the edge crisply modelled in with a band of raised render, is supported on square columns decoratively bolstered by curved-top

buttresses suggesting a ziggurat or skyscraper form. This cascade of Moderne styling is complemented by the mild steel balustrade, which extends to form a hand rail to the front steps. The gentle repetition geometric curves and interplay of orthogonal lines give a simple dynamism to this otherwise modest residence.

54 Lincoln Road, Essendon, has a simple brick fence of capped piers and panels of uncertain date, though it is certainly sympathetic in appearance to the house. A concrete path curves from the driveway entrance to front porch. The front fence is backed by young plantings of cypress (*Cupressus torulosa*) and the front garden has lawn with simple garden beds containing predominantly roses and shrub plantings characteristic of the era (e.g. *Camellia* sp.), not necessarily original or even early, but appropriate to the house; a tiered fountain presumably of more recent date sits to the north of the front path. A plain concrete driveway runs south of house, broken only at the building setback by a simply detailed wrought iron gate of vertical rods with circular motifs contained in a panel along the top (matching the porch balustrade) - its date is uncertain and might be early or a sympathetic later addition. The motor garage has a brick lintel to the main door with materials, forms, and details repeated from the main residence, its modest size suggesting an early date, though it had not been constructed by 1946.

54 Lincoln Road, Essendon, is of high integrity with very few changes visible to original or early elements of the place as viewed from the public domain. The building retains the predominant building form and tiled roof form of the original house, brick walls, semi-circular porch, and fenestration.

The integrity of the building is enhanced by the high level of intactness of these main elements, which include details such as the original chimney, tiled roof, metal-framed windows, porch detailing (including piers, balustrade, and steps), unpainted brickwork to base of walls as well as other details such as window sills.

The integrity of the building is slightly diminished by the rear extension of the house, although this has been done in a manner that respects the building envelope of the original house and is hardly visible from the street.

The integrity of the place is enhanced by the retention of a fence with simplified details matching the residence, possibly an original or early feature.

Comparative Analysis

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/>