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# House



Property

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## Location

4 Vincent Street OAK PARK, MERRI-BEK CITY

## Municipality

MERRI-BEK CITY

## Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO589

## Heritage Listing

Merri-bek City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 12, 2023

### What is significant?

The house and landscaping at 4 Vincent Street, Oak Park is significant. The form and materiality of the postwar International Style house is significant, in particular the large window panes, roof form with exposed rafters and internal timber detailing. The garden to the front is significant. The garden to the rear is not significant.

### How is it significant?

The house is of local representative and aesthetic significance to the City of Moreland. The landscaping is of local aesthetic significance to the City of Moreland.

### **Why is it significant?**

The dwelling demonstrates the principal characteristics of the postwar International style, in particular the floor to ceiling glass on the facade and large timber windows throughout to maximise views of the rear garden, Oak Park and Melbourne city, timber internal wall cladding, and the low pitched roof with exposed timber rafters on both the interior and exterior. It is an intact and highly representative example of this style. (Criterion D) The dwelling has aesthetic significance as an intact postwar International style dwelling with high quality features and design, including the large window panes, roof form with exposed rafters and internal timber detailing. The landscaping to the front setback is also aesthetically significant for its contribution to views from and towards the dwelling. (Criterion E)

Heritage Study/Consultant Moreland Heritage Nominations Study, Extent Heritage, 2022;

Construction dates 1960,

Hermes Number 206793

Property Number

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## **Physical Description 1**

Due to a lack of visibility from the street, the following physical analysis is based on a review of fieldwork images as well as images taken in 2016 and presented on realestate.com.au.

The subject site consists of a two-storey mid-century postwar dwelling in the International style, as well as contributory landscaping. The International style is a class of modernist architecture which is characterised by rectilinear forms, surfaces such as glass, metal and timber that have been stripped of ornamentation and decoration, open interior spaces, extensive use of glass to allow for views and vistas into the site surrounds, and visually weightless quality engineered by cantilever construction. With focus on creating views, the landscape setting of a dwelling of this style becomes an important feature to the meaning and character of the place.

The dwelling is constructed of brick with concrete foundations and is clad in vertical timber weatherboards. The low-pitched roof is flat, clad in sheet metal and includes sixteen solar panels. The roof cantilevers out at the front and rear of the buildings to create eaves and covered balconies. The underside of these elements of the roof contain with exposed timber rafters, which run through the interior of the building as well. The house includes a lower ground garage which is accessed via Vincent Street. Windows consist of floor to ceiling glass on the upper floor facade, presenting views to the city from this vantage point, as well as floor to ceiling glass at the exit to the rear yard. The remainder of the windows are two-pane sets presented in rows of two to four to provide vistas to other areas of the property. The dwelling has not been extended since it was first constructed.

The building is painted in a blue and white colour scheme. Any new paint scheme adopted for this place must not dominate the materiality and form of the building, which are critical to its understanding as an International style building. Neutral colours such as cream, white, grey and black are most appropriate.

The site is accessed by a concrete driveway, with recessed steps between the tyre pads. This leads to a semi-terraced garden, including stone garden bed edging, with cement footpath leading to a set of painted steel stairs for the dwelling. The site is bound on Vincent Street by a bluestone retaining wall and well established hedges. The rear yard is substantial in size and has been terraced with brick edging. There is a small weatherboard outbuilding at the rear and several mature fruit trees, Melaleuca's and gum trees, amongst vegetable gardens.

The dwelling has been well kept and is in good condition overall.

## Integrity

- Colour scheme

While the fieldwork did not allow for a comprehensive inspection of the property from the public domain, recent images of the dwelling available through realestate.com.au show that the site is likely to have high integrity overall.

## Physical Conditions

The dwelling has been well kept and is in good condition overall.

*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/>*