
D'estaville



City of Kew Urban
Conservation Study 1988

Location

7 Barry Street KEW, Boroondara City

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO11

HO143

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

HO143 Barry Street Precinct, Kew

Barry Street Precinct, Kew, is an area of heritage significance for the following reasons:

- The place has an unusual concentration of highly graded buildings, many of which were designed by prominent Melbourne architects.
- The area is one of Melbourne's best concentrations of large late Victorian and Federation house designs, in varied materials and often ably utilising the topography of the area. The precinct also has a number of distinctive designs of the interwar period.
- Many of the streets are marked by original basalt kerbing and grading, and the area features mature gardens and street trees.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - City of Kew Urban Conservation Study, Pru Sanderson Design Pty Ltd, 1988;
Construction dates	1858,
Architect/Designer	Knight & Kerr,
Hermes Number	22305
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

This two-storey fourteen roomed mansion was built for Sir William Foster Stawell, the first Attorney-General and later Chief Justice of Victoria[3]. It was designed by the architects of the Melbourne Parliament House, Knight and Kerr, who called tenders for a '... large stone house at Kew for Sir W.F. Stawell' in February 1858[4]. It is a very imposing house built in exposed Footscray basalt and has picturesque massing with Italianate detailing. The walls are in coursed basalt with rockfaced raised quoins to the windows and corner walls, while around the entrance door there is a shallow pilastered entrance porch with a broken pediment above. The roof line is dominated by the gable units and deep eaves, both decorated with closely set timber brackets. The house was originally set on a large tract of land, now greatly reduced. In its styling, D'Estaville compares with few houses of the 1850s in Victoria, the (basalt) Bishops court in East Melbourne constructed by James Blackburn about five years previous, being one of the few. Like Bishops court, it is possible that this house was originally intended to be rendered over the basalt between the raised quoining blocks.

Rate Books record that the initial N.A.V. of the building was £600[5] although by 1860 the valuation had fallen to £350 [6]. Stawell's property was occupied during the early 1870s by Niel Black[7], a Western district pastoralist, and although it was used as the Ruyton Kindergarten Training School during 1904-1906 [8], the current ownership has reverted to a private residence.

References --

- 1 National Trust of Aust.(Vic), Building Citation: 'D'Estaville'
- 2 Architects' Index, University of Melbourne.
- 3 National Trust of Aust.(Vic), 'Research into "D'Estaville"...', 6 December 1976
- 4 Architects' Index, University of Melbourne, *Argus* 15 February 1858, p.8
- 5 *ibid.*
- 6 *ibid.*
- 7 *ibid.*

8 ibid.

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/>