

## Bundoora Park Homestead

### Location

7-27 SNAKE GULLY DRIVE, BUNDOORA, DAREBIN CITY

### Municipality

DAREBIN CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1091

### Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7922 - 0169, H7922-0171

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO74

### Heritage Listing

Darebin City

### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Bundoora Park Homestead is of considerable architectural and historical significance.

The homestead is a substantially intact example of a large Queen Anne style house demonstrating outstanding craftsmanship in its interior, detailing including joinery and plasterwork. The building contains an extensive scheme of stained glass, attributed to the leading stained glass artist Auguste Fischer, and which has considerable intrinsic artistic merit. The staircase and upper landing are decorated with a complete set of pyrographic panels that are outstanding in terms of their number and intact condition, and their rarity as an example of pyrographic decoration used architecturally.

Bundoora Park Homestead is associated with its first owner, John M V Smith, a prominent figure in the horse breeding and racing industry in the early twentieth century and reputedly the owner of the racehorse Carbine. The house was designed by the prominent Melbourne architects Sydney H Wilson and Percy Oakden.

Bundoora Park Homestead was the principal building of the first repatriation psychiatric hospital established in Victoria. Its use from 1920 to 1993 as a repatriation hospital has important social and medical associations. Its initial acquisition for conversion to a hospital indicates the urgent need for care for returned service personnel following World War 1. The property's isolation suited prevailing official and public attitudes to the mentally ill, and at the same time provided a restful environment for Rehabilitation and the opportunity for a degree of self-sufficiency in food production.

Heritage Study/Consultant Darebin - Darebin Heritage Review, Andrew Ward, 2000;

Heritage Act Categories Registered place,

Other Names Bundoora Repatriation Hospital,

Hermes Number 26599

Property Number

## Physical Description 1

Preliminary information from community workshop nomination:

Queen Ann Federation House, homestead & stables built in 1899 by JMV Smith. Used as a repatriation hospital which closed in 1993. Donated to State Government and later to Darebin City Council. Now used as Arts Centre.

Theme: Building suburbs

Community Importance -

Historical value; Aboriginal cultural value (built on a major camp site); Importance to community identity; Landmark importance for local people; Associations with an important person or group (JMV Smith - Race horse stables and bred race horse, Wallace). [more info from Victoria Racing Club Museum]

Contact:

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*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/>*