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# ROCKBEARE (ROCK BARE)



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## Location

Rockbeare Street IVANHOE, Banyule City

## Municipality

BANYULE CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO52

## Heritage Listing

Banyule City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 9, 2005

Rockbeare is of local historical significance. The house is one of the oldest in the municipality, predating suburban subdivision

Heritage  
Study/Consultant

Banyule - Banyule Heritage Study, Allum Lovell & Associates, 1999; Banyule - Heidelberg Conservation Study, Graeme Butler and Associates, 1985;

Construction dates      1858,  
Hermes Number          31411  
Property Number

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## Historical Australian Themes

The 1840s and 1850s saw patchy settlement and development in the Banyule district, with an emphasis on rural sized landholdings and pastoral and agricultural activities. In the southern parts of the City of Banyule, a good deal of land was taken up by gentlemen farmers, who built large and relatively palatial country villas on land which remained within easy commuting distance. Rockbeare was built by Thomas Bear on the Glanville Estate, which he leased to various gentlemen favouring a rural retreat.

## Usage/Former Usage

Residence (Original and current)

## Physical Conditions

Good

## Physical Description 1

Rockbeare is a single-storey, rendered Italianate villa with a hipped roof and an encircling verandah, situated on a large block with a deep front garden. Rendered quoining exists at the corners of the house. Rubble stone foundations reportedly support the sub-floor structure, and presumably the render has been applied onto a rubble wall construction, as with the former Darebin Bridge Hotel which was built on land owned by Clark, the owner of Rockbeare's site.

Rockbeare has undergone numerous alterations. Photographs of the house published c.1910 show that originally the verandah was sheet zinc in a concave profile, supported on early open-work timber supports. This has since been replaced by corrugated iron roofing, new timber posts, new floor, gutters, and Oriental inspired false rafter ends applied to the verandah fascia, which have no relationship with the verandah rafters. Metal ridge cappings have been replaced with terracotta and the gutter line of the main roof extended on exposed rafter ends. The interior is simply finished.

To the west of the house is a pavilion addition c.1916, replacing an earlier extensive brick servants' wing which was demolished for subdivision.

## Intactness

Fair

## Physical Description 2

Part Crown Portion 1. Thomas Walker, 12/9/1838

*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/>*