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# House

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## Location

12 Mercer Road ARMADALE, Stonnington City

## Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO328

## Heritage Listing

Stonnington City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

12 Mercer Road is of regional significance as an integral part of a group of three which possess distinctive mediaeval character and restrained detailing that set these buildings apart from the prevailing fashions. It is also significant as one of a group of houses constructed by one of Australia's most famous mining magnates.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - City of Malvern Heritage Study, Nigel Lewis and Richard Aitken P/L, 1992;
Construction dates	1899,
Architect/Designer	Fisher, Arthur,
Other Names	12 Mercer Road, Armadale,
Hermes Number	31420
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

These houses were designed in an eclectic manner with a mediaeval character to the gable facing the street which has a secondary projecting hip roof over a window bay. The mediaeval character was probably reinforced by the entry gablet on the verandah with wooden fretwork. They may have borrowed this detail from Sir George Verdon's hill station, Alton at Mt Macedon which was influenced by Verdon's association with leading English Architects. The steep pitched roofs, tall chimneys and the lack of stucco ornamentation on these red face brickwork buildings represents a rejection of the Italianate and the more flamboyant Queen Anne styles. The plan form, however, with two projecting bays containing a return verandah is not uncommon for the period. 12 Mercer Road has apparently been modified with Edwardian details to the verandah including the removal of the gablet, the modernising of the gable barge boards and presumed removal of the finial. The picket fence is based on the general design of the two matching houses to the north. In most respects, this house is intact.

## Local Historical Themes

8.4.2 Functional, eccentric and theatrical - experimentation and innovation in architecture 3.3.3 Speculation and land boomers - subdivision from 1880s onwards 8.2.2 'Country in the city' - suburban development in Malvern before 1920

*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/>*