

# THANES



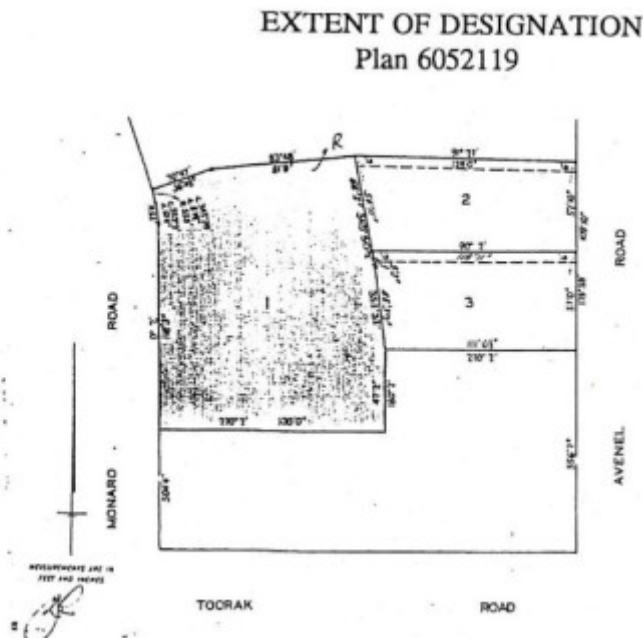
THANES SOHE 2008



Wyalla Monaro Road  
Kooyong Exterior View  
August 1994



Wyalla Monaro Road  
Kooyong West Wing  
November 2001



H0953 Thanes extent of registration plan

## Location

13A MONARO ROAD KOOYONG, STONNINGTON CITY

## Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0953

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO83

## VHR Registration

December 23, 1992

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 27, 2024

### What is significant?

Thanes (formerly known as Wyalla) was designed by Walter Butler of Butler and Branshaw, and built in 1908 for Franz Wallach, a mine engineer. The house has rough cast walls and a slate roof. Its most distinctive features are its Elizabethan parapets to the six main gables, as well as the swagged parapets to the projections over the bay windows and entry porch. Originally a much larger property, Thanes was progressively subdivided in the interwar period.

### How is it significant?

Thanes is of architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

### Why is it significant?

Thanes is of architectural significance as an extraordinary example of the Arts and Crafts freestyle, with distinctive Elizabethan influences, and as perhaps the most unusual Arts and Crafts residence constructed in Victoria. The plan form is typical of the Arts and Crafts Movement, with the house being one room deep with a corridor, and bent to form a boomerang shape. The house is planned so that the principal living areas face down a north-east slope, giving views over the Toorong Valley. This orientation reflects Butler's enthusiasm for north-facing living areas with good natural lighting, a concept for which he was a pioneering advocate in Australia. The hallway (50 feet long and 10 feet wide) and landing upstairs are the most impressive spaces in the house, and the joinery details, including staircase balustrade and timber panelling are well crafted and reminiscent of the work of Charles Rennie McIntosh and Voysey. An interesting Australian touch is the arched entry featuring a wreath of gum leaves and nuts, a motif repeated in a second entrance on the axis of the main hall. The Arts and Crafts movement in Australia encouraged the use of Australian materials and motifs, reflecting burgeoning nationalism around the time of Federation and the movement's belief in the necessity of a locally authentic form of decoration.

Thanes is of architectural significance as one of the most outstanding works of Walter Butler, an architect of great talent and prolific output. It demonstrates his pioneering use of solar design principles in Australia, and his deep interest in arts and crafts principles, a legacy of his early experience with leading arts and crafts architects in England before coming to Australia.

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General

exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

Construction dates	1908,
Architect/Designer	Butler, Walter Richmond,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	WYALLA,
Hermes Number	3749
Property Number	

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## History

Contextual History:History of Place:

House possibly renamed Thanes c.1940 (City of Malvern Heritage Study, Lewis & Aitken 1992)  
Associated People: Assoc.People: WALTER BUTLER - architect  
Leonard Righetti (Mayor of Malvern)

## Extent of Registration

AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 953

"Thanes" (formerly known as "Wyalla"), 13A Monaro Road, Kooyong.

(To the extent of:

1. All the buildings known as Thanes endorsed by the Chairperson, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.
2. All of the land described in Certificate of Title Volume 6349 Folio 472 marked L1 on Plan 6052119 endorsed by the Chairperson, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.)  
[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G50 23 December 1992 p.3905]

*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/>*