

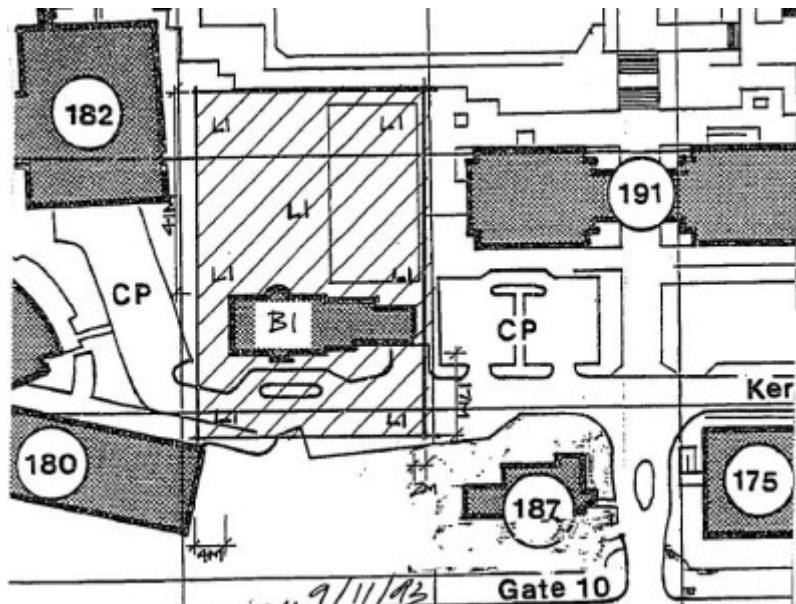
## VICE CHANCELLOR'S HOUSE



VICE CHANCELLOR'S  
HOUSE SOHE 2008



1 vice chancellors house  
university of melbourne  
parkville front view



h01003 plan h1003

### Location

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE, 156 - 292 GRATTAN STREET PARKVILLE, MELBOURNE CITY

### Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

### Level of significance

Registered

## **Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number**

H1003

## **Heritage Overlay Numbers**

HO821

## **VHR Registration**

May 23, 1996

## **Heritage Listing**

Victorian Heritage Register

---

## **Statement of Significance**

Last updated on - May 23, 2000

### What is significant?

The Vice-Chancellors House at the University of Melbourne was constructed in 1937-8 to a design by the office of Harry A Norris with funds provided by Herbert Brookes and George Nicholas. The house was constructed by CJ Totterdell at a cost of £7228. The salaried position of Vice-Chancellor was created in 1935, and until the construction of the Vice-Chancellor's House, the incumbent lived offsite. The house is a two-storey symmetrical villa constructed of brick with a hipped roof. Flanking curved garden walls extend beyond the building to embrace a car park, originally a garden. A centrally located polygonal bay containing the main stair projects from the front facade. The toothed bricks at the angles of this bay and the full height window give the building a vertical accent at its centre. Decorative brickwork simulates a frieze course and quoins. The symmetry of the main building is offset by a garage and east wing. A semi-circular portico, in the manner of an apse and with Egyptian capitals, leads into the rear garden. The tennis court was added in 1938 by James McLeod and Co. and a pergola was built to link the court to the house. Mrs Nicholas acted as advisers to the architect on internal fittings and details.

### How is it significant?

The Vice-Chancellor's House is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

### Why is it significant?

The Vice-Chancellor's House is historically significant as it is believed to be the only Vice-Chancellor's residence located on a campus in Australia. It is part of the University of Melbourne tradition of providing accommodation for Professors on campus, a tradition dating back to the construction of the original Quadrangle and Law School buildings in 1857. It is rare as an example of a Vice-Chancellor's house paid for by private sponsorship. The house also demonstrates the links between George Nicholas and Harry A Norris, a noted architect who was employed by Nicholas on a variety of projects.

The Vice-Chancellor's House is architecturally significant as a demonstration of the importance of the public and ceremonial aspects of the Vice-Chancellor's position. It is representative of the large Georgian Revival style residences designed and built during the inter-war period and the resurgence in the association of the classical style with notions of Australian colonial history, scholarliness and propriety.

## **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	1937,
Architect/Designer	Norris, Harry A,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	3801
Property Number	

---

## History

History of Place:

## Extent of Registration

### AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 1003:

Vice-Chancellor's House, University of Melbourne, Parkville, City of Melbourne.

Extent:

To the extent of:

1. All of the building known as the Vice-Chancellor's House marked B1 on Plan 605529 (A) signed by the Chairperson, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council, including the tennis court and all associated works and objects, and
2. The land marked L1 on Plan 605529(A), signed by the Chairperson, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G20 23 May 1996 p.1340]

*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/>*