

## DODGSHUN HOUSE



DODGSHUN HOUSE SOHE  
2008



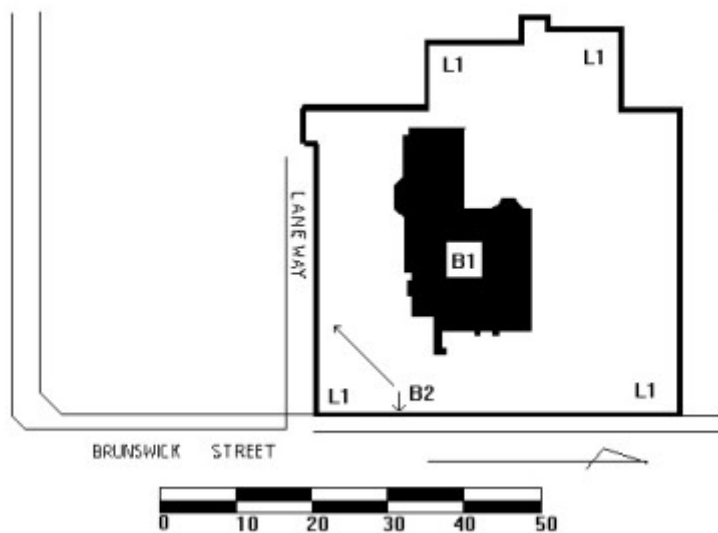
1 dodgshun house brunswick  
street fitzroy front view



dodgshun house brunswick  
street fitzroy b&w front  
elevation



dodgshun house brunswick  
street fitzroy entrance



dodgshun house brunswick street fitzroy plan

### Location

9 BRUNSWICK STREET FITZROY, YARRA CITY

## **Municipality**

YARRA CITY

## **Level of significance**

Registered

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

H1706

## **Heritage Overlay Numbers**

HO150

## **VHR Registration**

August 20, 1982

## **Amendment to Registration**

June 25, 1998

## **Heritage Listing**

Victorian Heritage Register

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## **Statement of Significance**

Last updated on - July 20, 1999

What is significant?

Dodgshun House (formerly Edensor) stands on land first acquired by Sydney merchant Thomas Walker as part of a 25-acre allotment in May 1839. Jane Minton, who purchased part of the Lot in 1840 and is believed to have constructed the first building on the site, sold part of her 1/2 acre to Alexander Mackillop, father of Mary Mackillop, in October 1840. The land bought by Mackillop contained a dwelling known as Marino Cottage. Mackillop experienced financial difficulties and sold the land to stockbroker Johnathon Binns Were in 1842. Were sold the land the following year to John H. H. Spencer and eventually the site was acquired c. 1864 by lawyer and politician, Samuel Gillott. At the time of Gillott's purchase the site contained a cottage known as Como. Gillott built a house called Edensor c. 1865 and in 1899 demolished Como to allow for a southern extension. The property was sold to the Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital in 1927 and became known as Dodgshun House from that time on. Gillott enlarged a 3 room brick dwelling on the site to nine rooms c.1865 and extended again in 1899 to create a 13 room residence. The rendered Italianate facade is believed to have been added in the mid 1870s and in 1899 the side wing and rear extension were added by architects Hyndman and Bates. The two storey villa has a symmetrically arranged facade and an arcaded verandah on the upper verandah and lower porch. Balustrading is present on the first floor level and the central doorway is crowned by an entablature. The high brick wall, which runs the length of the Brunswick Street frontage and along the southern boundary fronting the laneway, was constructed during Gillott's occupation and now incorporates a 20th century gatehouse.

How is it significant?

Dodgshun House (formerly Edensor) and its surrounding land is of historical, social and architectural importance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it Significant?

The site on which Dodgshun House (formerly Edensor) now stands is of great historical and social significance as the birth place of Mary Mackillop. Mary Mackillop, later pronounced Blessed Mary Mackillop, was born at 9 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, in 1842 to Alexander and Flora (nee MacDonald) Mackillop, Scottish Catholic emigrants. Mary, the first of eight children, was born at Marino Cottage and lived there with her parents until Alexander Mackillop's plunging fortunes necessitated the sale of the cottage and land to Jonathan Binns Were, the founder of J B Were and Son. In 1866, at the age of 24, Mary Mackillop established the first Josephite school in Penola and by the time of her death in 1909 at the age of 67 had instituted a 650 strong order, teaching over 12,000 children throughout Australia. The beatification of Mary Mackillop occurred in 1995 when Pope John Paul II pronounced her to be "Blessed", the final stage before sainthood. While Marino Cottage has long since disappeared, possibly incorporated into the fabric of Dodgshun House, 9 Brunswick Street Fitzroy has become historically and socially significant as a site of great religious pilgrimage.

Dodgshun House (formerly Edensor) is of historical importance for its association with Samuel Gillott, a prominent lawyer and politician who was elected Mayor in 1900, holding office for two terms. In 1901, the year of Federation, Gillott was knighted by the visiting Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York and his office distinguished by the title Lord Mayor. Gillott made 9 Brunswick Street his home c.1864, building Edensor to provide "all the convenience of a town residence combined with the quiet of a country house". The house, with its fence and gatehouse, is of significance as one of the few large residences surviving in the area. Dodgshun House (formerly Edensor) is of architectural significance for its side elevation which is a fine example of late Classicism with a distinctively-composed series of bays. The house is a representative example of townhouse composition and is finely decorated. The house's significance is accentuated by the fact that the front fence is original and parts of the garden survive.

## 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](#).

### Specific Exemptions:

EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITS:

(Classes of works or activities which may be undertaken without a permit under

## **Part 4 of the Heritage Act 1995)**

### **General Conditions:**

1. All alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.
2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of alterations that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such alteration shall cease and the Executive Director shall be notified as soon as possible.
3. If there is a conservation policy and plan approved by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it.
4. Nothing in this declaration prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.
5. Nothing in this declaration exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authority where applicable.

### **Exterior**

- \* Minor repairs and maintenance which replace like with like.
- \* Removal of extraneous items such as air conditioners, pipe work, ducting, wiring, antennae, aerials etc, and making good.
- \* Installation or repair of damp-proofing by either injection method or

### **grouted pocket method.**

### **\* Regular garden maintenance.**

- \* Installation, removal or replacement of garden watering systems.

\* Removal, refurbishment or replacement of the existing tennis court.

## **Interior**

\* Painting of previously painted walls and ceilings provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of the original paint or other decorative

### **scheme.**

\* Removal of paint from originally unpainted or oiled joinery, doors, architraves, skirtings and decorative strapping.

\* Installation, removal or replacement of carpets and/or flexible floor

### **coverings.**

\* Installation, removal or replacement of curtain track, rods, blinds and

### **other window dressings.**

\* Installation, removal or replacement of hooks, nails and other devices for the hanging of mirrors, paintings and other wall mounted artworks.

\* Refurbishment of bathrooms, toilets and or en suites including removal, installation or replacement of sanitary fixtures and associated piping,

### **mirrors, wall and floor coverings.**

\* Installation, removal or replacement of kitchen benches and fixtures including sinks, stoves, ovens, refrigerators, dishwashers etc and associated

### **plumbing and wiring.**

\* Installation, removal or replacement of ducted, hydronic or concealed radiant type heating provided that the installation does not damage existing skirtings and architraves and provided that the location of the heating unit

### **is concealed from view.**

\* Installation, removal or replacement of electrical wiring provided that all new wiring is fully concealed and any original light switches, pull cords,

push buttons or power outlets are retained in-situ. Note: if wiring original to the place was carried in timber conduits then the conduits should remain

**in-situ.**

\* Installation, removal or replacement of bulk insulation in the roof space.

\* Installation, removal or replacement of smoke detectors.

In accordance with s92(3) of the *Heritage Act 2017*, permit exemption issued by the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria on 8 September 2025 (P41475):

- The removal of existing, alteration to existing, or installation of new building services to the exterior of the building, known as De Paul House, located on Lot 2 PS439965, such as fire detection and prevention systems; security systems; heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems; kitchen extracts; plumbing and storm water management systems; and photovoltaic panels.
- The removal of existing, alteration to existing or installation of new hard and soft landscaping elements within the land known as Lot 2 PS439965, such as paths; edging kerbs; garden furniture; planting boxes; shrubs and other low-level plantings; and fences with the exception of the eastern boundary wall identified as B2 in the Extent of Registration. Works and activities must not involve damage to, or removal or disturbance of, early or original fabric including the eastern boundary wall identified as B2.

Construction dates      1865,

Architect/Designer      Hyndman & Bates,

Heritage Act  
Categories                  Registered place,

Other Names                FORMER EDENSOR, FITZROY CITY NURSES HOME, EYE AND EAR HOSPITAL,  
MARY MACKILLOP BIRTHPLACE, NURSES HOME EYE AND EAR HOSPITAL,

Hermes Number          448

Property Number

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## History

Associated People:

## Extent of Registration

### NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the Heritage Act, I give notice under section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by including the Heritage Register Number 1706 in the category described as a Heritage place:

Dodgshun House (formerly Edensor), 9 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, Yarra City Council.

### EXTENT:

1. All the buildings known as Dodgshun House, including the garden wall and gatehours, being the buildings marked B1 and B2 on diagram 603463, held by the Executive Director.

2. All of the land marked L1 on diagram 603463 held by the Executive Director, being all the land described in PS 318688K.

Dated 4 June 1998.

RAY TONKIN  
Executive Director

[Victoria Government Gazette No. G25 25 June 1998 p.1632]

*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/>*