
Burr Hill

Location

3 Burr Hill Court, BERWICK, Casey City

Municipality

CASEY CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO69

Heritage Listing

Casey City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 6, 2004

What is significant?

'Burr Hill', comprising the house originally built in 1878 with later additions in 1890 and c. and the associated mature garden, at 3 Burr Hill Court, Berwick.

How is it significant?

'Burr Hill' is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the City of Casey.

Why is it significant?

Historically, Burr Hill is significant as one of Berwick's earliest homes with its oldest section built in 1878 or earlier for the notable district farmer and parliamentarian, the Hon. James Buchanan, M.L.C. It was most probably built after he finished farming at his earlier property Ardblair (part of which is now known as Beaumont Farm). (AHC criteria A4, D2 and H1)

Aesthetically, despite alterations and additions, the 1878 house is significant as an representative example of a Victorian villa. The symmetrical additions made in the 1890s are externally intact and contribute to the significance as does a later Arts and Crafts verandah treatment. Other notable features include the cellar, a very old rose garden and some large established trees, which provide an appropriate setting. However, the 1977 and later additions and the subdivision of the land have diminished the integrity of the dwelling and its setting. (AHC criteria E1)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Casey - Casey Heritage Study, Context Pty Ltd, 2004; Casey - Heritage of the City of Berwick, Context Pty Ltd, 1993;
Construction dates	1850,
Hermes Number	62887
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The residence itself has been subject to alterations and additions. The oldest identifiable section of Burr Hill is the neo-Gothic building attached to the rear section of the house, containing a cellar of three rooms, one featuring an old bread oven, suggesting the room was used as a kitchen. The portico entrance, chimney and overall massing of this early building present a picturesque image. The original cast iron on the verandah was removed during Norman Steele's ownership (1).

Attached to the old building (by a new addition), is a symmetrical villa with large windows and generous verandah overlooking sloping lawns to the south, probably built in the 1890s. Later Arts and Crafts features include a double-posted verandah probably dating from the 1920s. The garden features a very old rose garden and some large established trees. More recent additions are revealed in 1977 and 1990 sketch plans of the house contained in Auction brochures (2).

1. Information supplied by Louise Reeve.
2. Compare illustration in *Early days of Berwick*, opp. p.15 with photographs and sketches in 1977 and 1990 Auction brochures; City of Berwick Valuer's records.

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/>