

Yarrimbah

Location

328-334 Narre Warren North Road, NARRE WARREN, Casey City

Municipality

CASEY CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO102

Heritage Listing

Casey City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 21, 2004

This house, designed by prominent modern architect and critic Robin Boyd, has high local significance as a good example of modern courthouse style architecture featuring an open plan interior layout with multiple levels, and distinctive Japanese stylistic influence in window treatment and massing.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Casey - Casey Heritage Study, Context Pty Ltd, 2004; Casey - Heritage of the City of Berwick, Context Pty Ltd, 1993;
Construction dates	1865,
Architect/Designer	Boyd, Robin,
Hermes Number	62989
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Yarrimbah was designed by Robin Boyd c1970. Contemporary articles on the subject described the design ideas apparent in the court house style as 'overwhelmingly distinguished by its introversion'.

'The house turns its back on the street and faces a private, internal court or courts. The historical derivation from the peristyle and atrium of Rome and Greece, the traditional Moslem house, traditional Chinese and Japanese house is patently obvious and these plans indicate the geometric possibilities within the court house concept'. (1)

The house, with its L-shaped plan, has Japanese character, without visible reference to traditional architectural motifs. Large internal spaces intersect at different levels, with a focus on the central lounge room located at the junction of the two wings. This room features a high flattened pyramidal ceiling, lined in stramit panels (as are ceilings throughout the house) with a glass corner window overlooking the garden and swimming pool. A vertical strip window and thin horizontal highlight are located in a feature wall containing shelving, separating a raised passage to the bedrooms. The garden area with pool is the courtyard focus.

Rough bagged render finishes both internal and external walls, with occasional panels of vertical board inside. Viewed from the pool side, the roof form of the central section of the house is distinguished by exposed rafters at the corners which widen at the ends, an abstract Japanese design. The roof is clad with pressed metal sheets imitating tiling.

The house and pool are elevated above the surrounding land to the east and secluded by a bush garden containing eucalypts with occasional cypress plantings. The house is very intact, the only alterations being the conversion of the carport into an additional living space.

Yarrimbah is located on approximately 8178 square metres of land and is owned by Peter and Valerie Drucza.

SOURCES

1. I. McHarg 'The Courthouse Concept' in Architectural Records, Sept., 1957, p.193.

Intactness

High

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/>