

# RESIDENCE



RESIDENCE SOHE 2008



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H00162 1 35 hanover street  
fitzroy



H00162 35 hanover street  
fitzroy kitchen block



H00162 35 hanover street  
former stables



RESIDENCE October 2016



RESIDENCE October 2016



RESIDENCE October 2016



RESIDENCE October 2016



RESIDENCE October 2016



H00162 extent

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### **Location**

35 HANOVER STREET FITZROY, YARRA CITY

### **Municipality**

YARRA CITY

### **Level of significance**

Registered

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

H0162

### **Heritage Overlay Numbers**

HO171

### **VHR Registration**

October 9, 1974

### **Amendment to Registration**

June 13, 2002

### **Heritage Listing**

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 19, 2021

## What is significant?

The Residence at 35 Hanover Street, Fitzroy was built by Edward Wills in 1854. Wills was born in Cornwall, England and arrived in Melbourne in 1844. He and his family settled in Newtown (Fitzroy) and he prospered as a quarry operator, supplying bluestone for residential, commercial and public works buildings. He acquired several properties in Newtown, and built 35 Hanover Street as a residence for his family. In 1855 Wills supplied stone from his Collingwood and Saltwater River quarries for the bridge across the Yarra at Church Street. As a leading business man, Wills was in a position in 1857 to be one of fifteen men on the Provisional Committee formed to finance the new National Bank of Australasia. Following the acquisition of a one quarter share of the Metropolitan Quartz Crushing Company at Golden Point, Sandhurst, Wills leased 35 Hanover Street and moved to the goldfields. Poor returns led to substantial debt and by 1870 he was forced to sell his house in Fitzroy to Joseph Gray, a cooper. The two storey house is constructed of bluestone. Stylistically it is a robust version of the Regency style, with a prominent doorcase with Doric order pilasters and a simple entablature. The window and wall termination quoins and the parapet are painted in imitation of sandstone. The iron fence at the front replaced an earlier timber picket fence. Two large Bhutan cypresses at the front of the house were planted at unknown date, possibly in the 1860s or 1870s, when this species became readily available from nurseries. At the rear are two important bluestone outbuildings. There is a detached two storey kitchen complete with range and bread oven and maids quarters above, and a stables building adjoining the rear laneway.

The Victorian Infant Asylum and Foundling Hospital was founded at the Residence in 1877. The Hospital, a charity that addressed social problems of illegitimacy, infanticide and child neglect in Victoria, was located here until 1881. Its focus was women likely to suffer a loss of reputation through pregnancy and who may have been at risk of harming their infants.

## How is it significant?

The Residence at 35 Hanover Street Fitzroy is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

## Why is it significant?

The Residence at 35 Hanover Street Fitzroy is historically significant as one of the oldest surviving houses in Fitzroy. The physical arrangement and relationship of the house to the detached kitchen and stables is historically significant. It is a rare surviving example of a metropolitan Victorian period townhouse with such an intact arrangement.

The Residence at 35 Hanover Street Fitzroy is historically significant for its associations with Edward Wills, a prominent Melbourne businessman with substantial quarrying interests.

The Residence at 35 Hanover Street Fitzroy is historically significant as the first headquarters for the Victorian Infant Asylum and Foundling Hospital, which occupied the house from 1877 to 1881. This pioneering organisation, which is now the Berry Street Child and Family Care in East Melbourne, was founded to address the widespread social problems of illegitimacy, infanticide and child neglect in Victoria.

The Residence at 35 Hanover Street Fitzroy is architecturally significant for the quality of the workmanship of the stonework, notably the bold quoins, pilasters and entablature. It is a fitting expression of Edward Wills' early trade as a stonemason and supplier of bluestone.

The Residence at 35 Hanover Street Fitzroy is aesthetically significant for the majestic pair of Bhutan cypresses at the front of the house. These trees are very tall and probably date to an early period in the house's history.

## 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:

**General Conditions:** 1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object. General Conditions: 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. General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan approved by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it. General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this declaration prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions. General Conditions: 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.

#### Exteriors

- \* Minor repairs and maintenance which replace like with like.
- \* Removal of extraneous items such as pipe work, ducting, wiring, antennae, aerials etc, and making good.

#### Interiors

- \* Main house and former stables building only: refurbishment of existing bathrooms, toilets and en suites including removal, installation or replacement of sanitary fixtures and associated piping, mirrors, wall and floor coverings.
- \* Main house and former stables building only: removal and replacement of existing kitchen benches and fixtures including sinks, stoves, ovens, refrigerators, dishwashers etc and associated plumbing and wiring.

#### All buildings:

- \* Painting or wallpapering of previously painted walls and ceilings. Evidence of earlier schemes should be reported to Heritage Victoria.

\* Removal of paint from originally unpainted or oiled joinery, doors, architraves.

\* Replacement of carpets.

\* 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.

\* 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 smoke detectors

Construction  
dates 1854,

Heritage Act  
Categories Registered place,

Other Names FOUNDLING HOSPITAL, INFANT ASYLUM AND FOUNDLING HOSPITAL, HOSPITAL,  
VICTORIAN INFANT ASYLUM AND FOUNDLING HOSPITAL, EDWARD WILLS HOUSE,  
BERRY STREET CHILD AND FAMILY CARE,

Hermes Number 469

Property  
Number

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## 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 in that the Heritage Register Number 162 in the category described as a Heritage place is now described as :

Residence, 35 Hanover Street, Fitzroy, Yarra City Council.

#### EXTENT:

1. All of the building and structure marked as follows on Diagram 162 held by the Executive Director: B1 House and bluestone boundary walls, B2 Outhouse/kitchen and boundary walls, B3 Former stables.

2. The trees marked as follows on Diagram 162 held by the Executive Director: T1 Cupressus torulosa (Bhutan Cypress), T2 Cupressus torulosa (Bhutan Cypress).

3. All the land marked L1 on diagram 162 held by the Executive Director and described in Certificate of Title Volume 7280, Folio 947.

Dated 7 June 2002

RAY TONKIN  
Executive Director

[Victoria Government Gazette G 24 13 June 2002 1321]

3. All the land marked L1 on diagram 162 held by the Executive Director and described in Certificate of Title Vol 7280 Fol 947.

*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/>*