

## 2 The Esplanade, QUEENSCLIFF



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2 The Esplanade\_map

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## Location

2 The Esplanade QUEENSCLIFF, QUEENSCLIFFE BOROUGH

## Municipality

QUEENSCLIFFE BOROUGH

## Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO14

## Heritage Listing

Queenscliffe Borough

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - November 1, 2009

The residence at 2 The Esplanade is of historical importance for its association with the prominent Victorian politician, Sir Henry Wrixon. Aesthetically it is a fine example in Queenscliff of a substantial Italianate mansion and is unusual in its timber construction. With *Maytone*, the adjacent seaside residence, which was built for the prominent Victorian politician Travers Adamson, they form a pair of imposing substantial Victorian houses facing the foreshore reserve and Lonsdale Bay.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Queenscliffe - Queenscliffe Urban Conservation Study, Allom Lovell & Associates P/L, Architects, 1982;
Construction dates	1886,
Hermes Number	120369
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

Extract from the 1982 study

Asymmetrically planned and of two storeys, the house is not unlike *Maytone*, 68 Stevens Street (qv) but is clad with weatherboards not stucco.

However, since Wrixon's time, alterations to window openings and the enclosing of the verandah have obliterated any architectural importance possessed by the house. Timber eaves, brackets, a slate roof, stuccoed corniced chimneys and timber architraves to the openings remain as original elements. The Esplanade achieves historical importance from its association with Sir Henry Wrixon and its proximity to *Maytone*, the summer house of Travers Adamson who, like Wrixon, was also Solicitor-General (1859-60)(7) in the Victorian Government.

## Intactness

Fair

## Physical Description 2

Extract from the 2009 study

No. 2 The Esplanade is a substantial asymmetrically composed two-storey weatherboard Italianate villa set back from the street behind a mature garden. A timber fence and large hedge extend along the street boundary and conceal much of the sunken lower level of the house from view from the street. A non-original lych gate provides access to the property. The house has a hipped roof clad in slate tiles and there are two rendered brick chimneys with vermiculated panels at their sides and classically-inspired mouldings at their tops.

The front elevation has a large canted bay window with a verandah extending along the remainder of the facade and returning along part of the east elevation. This verandah has been enclosed. Although the facade is weatherboard, it appears from the east side of the bay window it may originally have been clad in rusticated weatherboard. The building retains its original segmental arched double-hung sash windows and eaves brackets.

Unsympathetic alterations during the twentieth century have impacted upon the integrity of the house. These alterations include the previously mentioned enclosed verandah, enlargement of the central window on the upper

level of the canted bay and in recent years a two-storey addition to the west elevation that replicates the form of the original canted bay window.

No. 2 The Esplanade and the adjacent *Maytone*, at the corner of The Esplanade and Stevens Street, form a visually cohesive pair of substantial Italianate houses overlooking the foreshore reserve.

## **Extent of Registration**

To extent of title boundaries.

*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/>*