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## Flats



Camberwell Conservation  
Study 1991

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### Location

7 Rochester Road CANTERBURY, BOROONDARA CITY

### Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO184

### Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 1991

Architecturally, distinguishable as of a small group of designs from the internationally known Prairie School in Victoria, showing also a move towards the severe geometry of much Modernist architecture to come in contrast to the contemporary eclectic designs; of regional importance and state interest. Historically, little is known of the first owner in the Camberwell context, but it is one of the early examples in a city where flat building was discouraged.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Camberwell Conservation Study, Graeme Butler, 1991; Boroondara - Municipal-Wide Heritage Gap Study: Vol. 1 Canterbury, Context, 2018;
Hermes Number	14953
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

Cement rendered and symmetrical, these flats take on the geometric severity of a Prairie school design. Aztec in form and detail, the building's bold horizontal forms and voids are counterpointed by vertical fins or pier's, symmetrically arranged on both the street elevation and chimney shaft.

Some comparison may be made with Wright's Millard residence, Pasadena (1923), and the Booth (1911), and Gale residences, Illinois (1904-9). This example lacks the eclectic detailing but shares the interlocking rectanguloid forms, as did also the contemporary European Modern movement, but without the decorative 'unfunctional' use of massing. Chevron pattern glazing is shared with other Griffin school designs; the terrace balustrade also comprising a chevron but in three dimensions. The stuccoed fence has been stepped with the incline, both vertically and laterally, whilst gate posts have flared Aztec- like, plinths. A similarly unusual divided front garden is enclosed between the house and boundary.

## Integrity

The stucco has been painted

*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/>*