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## House at 11 Esplanade



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WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons  
Bay Heritage Study 2006



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### Location

11 Esplanade WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons Bay City

### Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

### Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO107

### Heritage Listing

Hobsons Bay City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The house, constructed c.1888 and front fence at 11 Esplanade, Williamstown.

How is it Significant?

The house and front fence at 11 Esplanade, Williamstown are of local historic and aesthetic significance to the City of Hobsons Bay.

Why is it Significant?

Historically, the house is significant for its close associations with maritime pursuits, it is advantaged by the seaward aspect and part of an area sought after by others of like pursuits, thus epitomizing Williamstown's special role as the early seaport of Melbourne. (AHC criteria A4 and D2)

Aesthetically, the house is significant as a representative example of an Italianate villa, which is notable for the verandah detail and Gothic windows and contributes to the historic character of the Esplanade precinct. It is complemented by the front fence, which is representative of the early sheet fences once characteristic of the Esplanade that were designed to protect the gardens from sand blown across from the foreshore. (AHC criteria E1 and F1)

Heritage Study/Consultant Hobsons Bay - Hobsons Bay Heritage Study, Hobsons Bay City Council, 2006;

Hermes Number 15038

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

The house at 11 Esplanade, Williamstown is a double-fronted hip-roofed, ashlar-boarded Italianate styled villa with a cast iron convex-roofed verandah which has a central gable. Unusual Gothic arched verandah end walls and diamond patterns to chimneys are notable details as is the early colour scheme. Gothic arch windows are also in the side rear wall (see also 2 Ferguson Street)

Although having a long history, the house facade appears more akin to Thomas Sanderson's period (c.1888) when two rooms and seven pounds were added to the rate valuation description; alternately, but less likely, John Cosgrove may have renovated the property c.1885.

Recent changes to the fabric have include the removal of the rear wings, and the modification (or replacement in a similar form) of the early, if not original, capped sheet-iron fence, which was identified and documented by the 1993 Study. This type of fence was once typical for the Esplanade (see *Williamstown Illustrated* 1904), and was designed to protect front gardens from sand blown across from the foreshore.

## Integrity

External Integrity and condition

*Integrity* - High. *Condition* - Good.

## Physical Description 2

Context

Typical of the large Italianate styled dwellings, set behind sheet iron fences, which once constituted most of this street's housing (see Nos. 4, 9, 10, 16, 17, 18, 19 The Esplanade).

## Historical Australian Themes

## Making suburbs

*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/>*