
MAYFIELD



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Location

44 Murphy Street, SOUTH YARRA VIC 3141 - Property No 38362

Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO639

Heritage Listing

Stonnington City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

Mayfield at 44 Murphy Street, South Yarra is a complex of double-storey English Domestic Revival style flats arranged around a central semi-enclosed courtyard. The flats were constructed in 1934 to a design by prominent interwar Melbourne architect Robert Bell Hamilton.

Elements that contribute to the significance of the place include (but are not limited to):

- The original external form, materials and detailing of the buildings.
- The unpainted state of the face brick and terracotta elements.
- The domestic garden setting (but not the fabric of the garden itself).

Later additions and alterations, including the dormer additions, garages, and the driveway gate, are not significant.

How is it significant?

Mayfield is of local architectural significance to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

Mayfield is architecturally significant as a fine and largely intact example of interwar flat development in the English Domestic Revival style (Criterion D). The flats are the work of noted interwar architect Robert Bell Hamilton, one of the most important and influential designers of flats in interwar Melbourne (TEH 8.6.3 - Architect Designed apartments).

Mayfield is also architecturally significant as an early prototype for Hamilton's 'luxury flat' design configured around a central courtyard (Criterion E, TEH 8.6.2 - Developing apartment living).

Construction dates 1933,
Architect/Designer Hamilton, Robert B.,
Other Names Luxury flats maisonettes,
Hermes Number 165873
Property Number

Physical Description 1

Mayfield is an English Domestic Revival style complex of double-storey flats with a U shape plan form partially enclosing a garden court that provides driveway access and hardstand carparking. The driveway entrance on Murray Street is flanked on either side by original semicircular clinker brick walls with integrated bench seating. The flats have a picturesque arrangement of hipped and gabled roofs with terracotta tiles and tall brick chimneys with paired shafts and corbelled caps. External walls are constructed of clinker brick with half-timbering to the first floor and attic storey dormers. Windows typically have multi-pane double-hung sash

frames. Some of the flats have first floor oriel windows supported on ornate timber brackets. The flats are generally intact externally apart from attic storey storey additions (with dormer windows and half-timbered detailing to match the original) and first floor additions above the rear garages.¹⁰ There are also single-storey garage additions to the front flats and a largely concealed double-storey addition to the rear south-east. The additions and alterations are sympathetically designed and do not detract from the interwar character of the flats.

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/>