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# Northbrook House

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## Location

1257 High Street MALVERN, Stonnington City

## Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO59

## Heritage Listing

Stonnington City

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Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - Register of National Estate - Northbrook Place Report, Register of the National Estate, 1999; Stonnington - Malvern City Urban Character Study Appendix B Preliminary Heritage Assessment, Graeme Butler and Architectural Historian Laceworks Landscape Collaborative, 1989;
Construction dates	1889,
Other Names	1257 High Street, Malvern,
Hermes Number	30609
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

Northbrook House is a single storey Victorian Italianate villa of 1889, unusually planned about a square top-lit hall at the centre and an axial through corridor. Internally there are particularly fine stencilled and gilded ceilings and a dining room especially complete in its timberwork, including a panelled ceiling, cornice like picture rail and supporting pilasters, window cases, chimney piece, dado and sideboards built in against the wall with continuous skirting.

Externally, the building is asymmetrical and has an arched and rusticated entrance porch with a balustraded balcony above. There are paired brackets to eaves (with festoons between pairs; these brackets and the asymmetry particularly reflect the Italianate styling), pediment-style decorations to tall chimneys, and vermiculated quoins. The slate roof is hipped in form. It would appear that the verandas which originally encircled the main rooms were removed by the council in the early days of its ownership. Finishes and materials originally used throughout the building were of the highest order. Several vaulted ceilings have recently been uncovered and two of these are magnificently adorned with what appear to be finished wall papers. Several cherubic figures are portrayed on the ceiling in the foyer outside the dining room. Other rooms are large and well proportioned with tiled fireplaces and handsomely fitted mantelpieces. A large central foyer or atrium is panelled in imported timber. The entrance foyer has marble paving and crystal door knobs are fitted to the front entrance door.

## **Local Historical Themes**

3.3.3 Speculation and land boomers - subdivision from 1880s onwards 8.4.1 Houses as a symbol of wealth, status and fashion 10.7.2 Music, dancing and cinemas 10.5.1 Local History collections

*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/>*