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## Dr Adamson's house



1577 - Brimbank City Council  
Post-contact Cultural  
Heritage Study 2000

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### Location

137 Anderson Road, SUNSHINE VIC 3020 - Property No 104

### Municipality

BRIMBANK CITY

### Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

### Heritage Listing

Brimbank City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 2000

#### Individual place statement of significance::

DEMOLISHED 2004-5,

The house is of historical significance to the Sunshine locality as one of the earliest surviving houses to be built on the 'Sunshine Estate' (1909) and as the home and surgery of Sunshine's first resident doctor, Dr. John Adamson, who practised in the area for about 20 years and was a leading figure in the local community. Visitors to the house included the Revd.. Dr. John Flynn. For almost seventy years, this was the home of the Steers

family.

**Precinct statement of significance::**

The McKay housing subdivision is of national historical and social significance as the first stage of the suburb created by Australia's leading industrialist and a milestone in the development of the industrial suburb, under the influence of the Garden City movement. Sunshine became a yardstick for planning and housing reformers, with H.V. McKay being regarded as an expert on planned industrial housing. The McKay estate is of regional architectural significance as it marks a crucial phase in the development of Sunshine, housing the resident work force which promoted further industrial development.

The estate is also of historical significance in relation to H. V. McKay's important role in the history of industrial relations in Victoria and Australia, as the provision of housing for his workers was one of the arguments made by McKay in defending the Basic Wages Case which led to Justice Higgins' "Harvester Judgement".

The group of houses along Forrest Street, Ridley Street, Sydney Street, King Edward Avenue, Anderson Road, Talmage Street and Kororoit Street, represent the type of houses built either by or for company employees, foremen and managers. The houses include major remnants of the large blocks allotted to senior staff of the Sunshine Harvester Works. Most of the houses were set back on their blocks with side drives, rather than rear service lanes, giving an air of spaciousness and permitting large gardens (of which some remnants survive).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Brimbank - Brimbank City Council Post-contact Cultural Heritage Study, G. Vines, 2000;
Construction dates	1910,
Architect/Designer	Robinson, J Raymond,
Hermes Number	105921
Property Number	

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**Physical Description 1**

Demolished 2004 formerly a reclad, Edwardian-era, weatherboard house, with bichrome chimney and gabled roof. The garden retains a Cordyline in the front garden and Brachychiton sp. at the rear. The house, by its size and assumed original form, appears to have been one of the larger houses in the McKay estate. The house is also part of a group of larger houses near H.V. McKay's house and the memorial church and garden, an area which appears to have been an enclave of influential persons in the town.

**Physical Conditions**

Although much altered and reclad, the original form and some details of the house are still evident.

**Intactness**

Demolished

**Historical Australian Themes**

- 4 Building settlement, towns and cities
- 4.1 Planning urban settlements

*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/>*