
Henry B. Smith House



50 Forrest.JPG

Location

50 Forrest Street, SUNSHINE VIC 3020

Municipality

BRIMBANK CITY

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO139

Heritage Listing

Brimbank City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 2000

Individual place statement of significance::

The houses in Forrest Street are major remnants of the large blocks allotted to senior staff of the Sunshine Harvester works. Many of the houses are set well back on their blocks, giving an air of spaciousness. They are all weatherboard with large corrugated iron roofs and tall chimneys. Gables, verandahs, and rough-cast surfaces are a feature of many of the houses, A number of the houses have associations with people who worked for the Sunshine Harvester Works or who were members of the McKay 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,
Hermes Number	106074
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Large house originally clad with weatherboards, now painted. The large gables on three sides and long front verandah are a prominent feature. Inside the house, all the main rooms have pressed metal ceilings.

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/>