
Essington House



Review of C* Grade Buildings
in the Former City of
Hawthorn

Location

67 Mayston Street HAWTHORN EAST, Boroondara City

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO465

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Essington House, 67 Mayston Street, Hawthorn East, is of local historical and architectural significance. It is a large and substantially externally intact two-storey, 1870s, stucco-clad Italianate house, and one of a body of larger Melbourne houses built between the 1850s and 1870s which were influenced in their design by institutional buildings such as the various government houses. Architecturally, it has a demeanour and detail which are both restrained and magisterial, with the upper and ground floor elevations being restrained yet imposing, and

effectively using a simple set of Renaissance details.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Review of C* Grade Buildings in the Former City of Hawthorn, Lovell Chen Architects & Heritage Consultants, 2006; Boroondara - Hawthorn Heritage Study, Meredith Gould Conservation Architects, 1993; Boroondara - Municipal-Wide Heritage Gap Study Volume 6: Hawthorn East, Context, 2018;
Other Names	Essington House,
Hermes Number	14568
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Essington House, 67 Mayston Street, Hawthorn East, is a substantial two-storey, 1870s, stucco-clad Italianate house with a return verandah. The house presents three wings to Mayston Street, with the front wing terminated by a canted bay, and a return or wrap-around verandah. The roof has slate-cladding with iron ridge capping, and chimneys are stucco-clad and heavily sculpted around their cornices; the eaves are boxed with paired brackets used sparingly over corner piers marked with diamond bosses halfway down. These piers are plain-surfaced in render on the first floor, with a uniform quoined surfacing to the ground floor. The upper floor elevations have five moulded string courses, with the deepest of these marking the floor line and the sill point for the windows. The windows are timber-framed, double-hung sashes, with those on the Mayston Street frontage having segmental arches and rectangular indentations below each window. The verandah has timber posts with iron brackets, a bull-nosed corrugated iron roof, and a restrained frieze contained in long rectangular frames. The posts may be from a later date and earlier assessments regarded the verandah as being non-original, which appears to be the case.[i] The front door and its case appear original. The fence is not original, although it may be from the interwar period; it has an accompanying cypress hedge; both are shared with the 1930s block of flats next door. Elements of the garden are long standing, as with the front conifer and the palm trees particularly. A swimming pool was added to the rear in 1985.[ii]

[i] See Meredith Gould, *Hawthorn Conservation Study*, 1992. 'Essington House'.

[ii] City of Hawthorn Building Card Index: Permit #2053, n.d. ('2 apart's'); and #1164, dated 21 February 1950 ('adds'). The swimming pool was Permit #3439 (1863), dated 15 October 1985, and it was completed around 3 June 1986.

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/>