
Thule Croft



Review of B Graded Buildings
in Kew, Camberwell &
Hawthorn

Location

24 Albion Street SURREY HILLS, Boroondara City

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO364

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Thule Croft at 24 Albion Street, Surrey Hills, is of local historical and architectural significance. Externally relatively intact, it is an early and clear example of an early twentieth century attic form house, influenced by the arts and crafts movement. Along with its neighbour, 22 Albion Street, *Thule Croft* is a relatively early example of this form, and demonstrates the transition from the Federation villa, with its return verandah, toward a gabled attic form more typical of the 1920s. Both 22 and 24 are distinguished by their bold massing and are unusual for this

period in their incorporation of vesticulated concrete masonry.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Review of B Graded Buildings in Kew, Camberwell and Hawthorn, Lovell Chen Architects & Heritage Consultants, 2006; Boroondara - Camberwell Conservation Study, Graeme Butler, 1991;
Other Names	Thule Croft,
Hermes Number	14684
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Thule Croft, at 24 Albion Street, Surrey Hills, is a two-storey attic-roofed house evidently with stone footings,[i] and concrete masonry ground floor walls and chimneys, a return verandah facing north and east, and a shingle covered upper storey, formed from several attic wings. The shingles at the upper level appear possibly to have been replaced more recently in an atypical pattern of 30 cm squares. The attic wings and dormers are original other than for the small dormer in the main roof form, which has been added. The v-pattern half-timbering at the upper gable was covered in shingles sometime after 1991.[ii]

The original roof, probably of slate, has been resurfaced in powder-coated galvanized steel. Several front windows have been altered or given new frames, though the arched stained glass window bearing the name *Thule Croft* in milky coloured glass may be original or early. The western quarter of the front yard has been paved over to form a court in front of a new garage building with automatic door, and the original concrete fence has been removed at that point. The remaining garden, to the north and east of the house, appears largely mature.

The front fence planking and gate have been replaced more recently in works applied for in 2001,[iii] though the posts and base are in the original vesticulated concrete masonry seen on the ground floor walls and chimneys of the house itself (note that the blockwork was proposed to be rebuilt).

[i] Personal communication from a neighbour who worked on repairs to the roof, 20 September 2005.

[ii] Compare Butler's photograph: Camberwell Conservation Study 1991, vol. 4 p. 4.

[iii] Proposed Alterations (drawing by Alexander Metherall, August 2001) approved by the Hendry Group, # 2001/641.

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.

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