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# 169 Canterbury Road



Review of B Graded Buildings  
in Kew, Camberwell &  
Hawthorn

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## Location

169 Canterbury Road CANTERBURY, Boroondara City

## Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO377

## Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Designed by Ussher and Kemp for surgeon George H Armstrong and constructed in 1903-4, No. 169 Canterbury Road is of local historical and architectural significance. It is a fine, representative and externally intact example of a two-storey Federation residence which is distinguished architecturally by its accomplished design, combining corner bay and flanking wing and making inventive use of half-timbered pattering. It is of significance as a prominent commission by renowned domestic architects Ussher and Kemp, completed at a time when the practice was at its peak. It compares directly- and favorably- with other leading designs of theirs, particularly

among their two-storey houses, and is a direct predecessor to Kemp's renowned *Dalswraith* in Kew.

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|---------------------------|--|
| 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; |
| Construction dates        | 1903,  |
| Architect/Designer        | Ussher & Kemp,   |
| Hermes Number             | 14697  |
| Property Number           |  |

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## Physical Description 1

169 Canterbury Road is a two-storey Federation house with a south-facing verandah flanked by a gabled wing, facing Canterbury Road, to the immediate south, and a corner tower formed from a curved bay built into the verandah. A smaller single-storeyed bay is built into a half-timbered screen near the front door. The roof is terra cotta tiles in a Marseilles pattern; the large Gryphon is a more recent addition. There is no verandah valance and the balustrading combines timber slats in groups of three, arranged into a rather Japanese- looking pattern with paired slats supporting balustrade. A round arch with slats is over the entry toward the front door. The arches around the verandah's western tower bay are pointed, and the verandah posts are in turned timber. The south gabled bay has its upper storey in a hung tile surface of terracotta which flares into a bracketed hood over the ground floor's bay window. All four bay windows on the south side are canted, with large casements, glazed in a grid of small panes, with large segmentally arched or flat topped sashes in three of the bays, and surmounted in three of the bays by smaller lights, again in segmentally arched frames. The upper floor bedroom windows are in a differently sized paning and thinner in their framing and trim, suggesting they have been altered. The walls are otherwise in a plain coursed red brick, with a half timbered roughcast stucco frieze running across the ground floor corner bay and entrance screen. The west side is marked by an asymmetrically stepped chimney breast with a stack that pierces another half-timbered gable, which in turn is played off against three roof slopes alongside and below. The roof, south, west and east elevations appear intact, and the north side has not had substantial alterations either. The cyclone-wire fence dates from 1957, as does the gravelled car court to the immediate west. The garden is relatively dense and contains at least one mature tree.

*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/>*