
Hawthorn House (formerly Richmond House)



Hawthorn Heritage study
1992



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Location

1 Shakespeare Grove HAWTHORN, Boroondara City

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO243

HO163

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Significance of Individual Property

1. Architecturally significant as one of the best examples of boom style mansions in Melbourne.
2. A landmark in St. James Park and a vital part of the Urban Conservation Area.

The St. James Park Estate, Hawthorn, is an area of heritage significance for the following reasons:

- The place is a Victorian-era mansion estate, developed in the second half of the nineteenth century as Melbourne's wealthier residents sought accommodation away from industry and the cramped living conditions of the inner-city, in a more physically desirable location, but still close to the city. Several of the streets offer broad views of Richmond and Hawthorn East.
- The place contains an exceptional number of individual buildings of historical and architectural merit including Victorian-era mansions as well as large Federation and interwar-era dwellings. Individually significant buildings include Invergowrie and its gate lodge, the Glucksburg trio, Hawthorn House and Zetland.
- The place has important historical associations with Sir James Palmer who erected Burwood (now Invergowrie), and George Coppin who subdivided and sold the area in 1871-1882.
- The place is representative of the growth of Hawthorn as a Victorian garden suburb from the 1850s up until to the interwar period.
- Development in the area also reflected its proximity to rail links (from the early 1860s) and the development of the tram network (c. 1912-3).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Hawthorn Heritage study 1992, Meredith Gould, Conservation Architects, 1992;
Other Names	Hawthorn House (Formerly Richmond House),
Hermes Number	14852
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

A two storey mansion with three stage tower set on the side. The Shakespeare Grove elevation comprises a projecting hipped wing with bay at the ground level and a ground level colonnade adjoining. Above is a first floor balcony, unroofed, as is the first floor bay balcony. The render mouldings are particularly fine. Corners and openings have a chamfered edge to the reveal and extensive use is made of acanthus motifs in string courses and as pilasters. The eaves comprise heavy brackets and the arched openings are defined by render mouldings. Weird short render piers with orb heads are used on the balconies. On-site inspection is required to determine their date. Between the piers is a fine (probably wrought iron) balustrade. Access to the house is via the colonnade at the front of the house. As the tower is a later addition it does not have a key functional role in the scheme. The tower is set on a bluestone base. The lowest level is heavily ruled. Substantial string courses divide the three stages, with the top stage, which rises free of the roof, the most elaborate, particularly wide eaves set on paired brackets completes the design.

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/>