
Toorak Bowling Club



Toorak Bowling Club

Location

9-13 Mandeville Crescent, TOORAK VIC 3142 - Property No 48052

Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO471

Heritage Listing

Stonnington City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

Toorak Bowling Club was established in 1913 and opened on its present site at 9 Mandeville Crescent Toorak in 1914. The club retains its original timber pavilion, built in 1914 to designs by noted architect I G Beaver.

Elements that contribute to the significance of the place include (but are not limited to):

- The external form and fabric of the pavilion surviving from the Edwardian phase of development,
- The materiality of the building (e.g. weatherboard clad walls and corrugated iron roofs)
- The bowling green (but not the lighting, seats and shelters).
- Views from the public realm and the open setting of the pavilion created by the bowling green.
- The legibility of the pavilion's early single-storey envelope.
- The wrought iron gate and stone gate piers on Mandeville Crescent and stone retaining walls
- The limited presence of modern signage on the exterior of the pavilion and grounds.

Post war additions to the pavilion do not contribute to the significance of the place.

How is it significant?

Toorak Bowling Club is of local historical, social and architectural significance to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

Toorak Bowling Club is historically and socially significant for its ongoing use as venue for community sporting and recreational activities dating back to 1914 (TEH 10.7.1 Sport, Criterion G).

The pavilion is architecturally significant as a representative example of an early twentieth century sporting clubhouse (Criterion D). It has been altered and extended but its original Edwardian character is still legible. The pavilion is of additional significance as one of only two early (i.e. pre-World War II) purpose built bowling club buildings surviving in the municipality (Criterion B).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - Heritage Places in the City of Stonnington - Heritage Citations Project, Bryce Raworth Pty Ltd, 2013;
Construction dates	1913,
Architect/Designer	Beaver, Isadore G.,
Hermes Number	195703
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Toorak Bowls Club is located on the south side of Mandeville Crescent, Toorak. The club is set in pleasant, leafy surrounds with a hedge along Mandeville Crescent boundary. Pedestrian access to the site is through a wrought iron gate with random rubble stone piers and stone retaining wall alongside a concrete footpath. The bowling green takes up the front of the site leaving room for the pavilion at the rear.

The pavilion is a charming, single-storey, timber-framed building with weatherboard walls and gabled corrugated steel roofs. It appears to have been built in two stages but it is not clear whether the eastern or western halves came first. The eastern half of the pavilion projects slightly forwards and has gabled bay with a large non-original timber-framed window facing the bowling green. The western portion of the pavilion has an asymmetrical form with gabled bay at one end of a flat roofed verandah dating from c1954. [1] The 1914 MMBW plan shows the original verandah set back further, in line with the gable end. It is apparent from a 1927 photograph that the pavilion walls were originally clad in weatherboard with a half-timbered treatment above lintel height.[2] This detail has been replaced by weatherboard cladding. The gable ends have also been reclad. The modest 1931 addition on the west side of the pavilion is concealed by a flat roofed post war addition. All these changes aside, the original Edwardian form of the pavilion can still be discerned.

[1] The existing verandah can be seen in a c1954 photograph of the bowls club. Stonnington Local History Catalogue. Registration Number: PH22835.

2] *Argus*, 24 February 1927, p.9.

Local Historical Themes

Toorak Bowling Club illustrates the following theme, as identified in the *Stonnington Thematic Environmental History* (Context Pty Ltd, 2006):

10.7.1 Sport

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/>