

---

## 7 Leura Grove Hawthorn East

---

### Location

7 Leura Grove HAWTHORN EAST, BOROONDARA CITY

### Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO620

### Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

---

### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

## What is significant?

The cream-brick Moderne house at 7 Leura Grove, Hawthorn East, is significant to the extent of its 1940 fabric. The house was constructed by developer AV Jennings for owner Frank Norton, a professional photographer. The design is attributed to Jennings's in-house designer, Edgar Gurney.

The front fence and the attached garage contribute to the significance of the place.

The carport is not of significance.

# How is it significant?

The house at 7 Leura Grove is of local historical and representative significance to the City of Boroondara.

# Why is it significant?

Historically, the house is significant as the first known house to be built by the AV Jennings Construction Company in the City of Boroondara, and one of its last individual residential commissions prior to World War Two. Founded in 1932 to provide high-quality brick houses at affordable prices, the company began building individual houses but expanded into entire housing estates by the mid-1930s. The company went on to have a significant presence in the area with the Trentwood Estate in Balwyn North, and became Australia's largest private home builder and the largest and most influential provider of house and land packages. (Criterion A)

The house at 7 Leura Grove is a representative and intact example of a Moderne style two-storey residence of the late interwar period. It exhibits the aesthetic characteristics of this style, including asymmetric massing, rounded corners, strong horizontal lines strengthened by the parapet and steel railing to the terrace, ribbon windows to the singlestorey, semi-circular wing at the front, horizontal bands of glass blocks, and a flat concrete roof. It is clad in the fashionable cream bricks of the time. It is also one of the small number of avant-garde Moderne houses built by AV Jennings in the interwar period, and appears to be part of the oeuvre of Edgar Gurney, whose own house in Ivanhoe was designed in this style. (Criteria D, H)

Heritage Study/Consultant Boroondara - Individual Heritage Citations, City of Boroondara, 2016;

Hermes Number 199745

Property Number

---

*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/>*