
Attached Houses



635-637 Park Street



637 Park Street

Location

635-637 Park Street BRUNSWICK, MORELAND CITY

Municipality

MERRI-BEK CITY

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO554

Heritage Listing

Merri-bek City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 30, 2020

What is significant?

The semi-detached houses at 635-637 Park Street, Brunswick are significant. The built form, style and arrangement of the semi-detached Federation era dwellings is significant, along with key decorative features including the roof tiles, chimneys, roughcast render and corner windows. The rear extensions and front fences are not significant.

How is it significant?

The semi-detached houses are of local representative and aesthetic significance to the City of Moreland.

Why is it significant?

The subject site demonstrates principal characteristics of the Federation style, including the terracotta Marseilles roof tiles and roof form, chimneys and curved timber windows. However, this significance is impacted by the front boundary fences, elements of timber joinery and render over brickwork. (Criterion D)

The semi-detached dwellings have aesthetic significance as semi-detached Federation era houses which retain many original features and their overall form. They are unique for their semi-detached arrangement and unusual yet appealing corner bay windows. Other notable features include the tiled roof and roughcast render detailing. (Criterion E)

Heritage Study/Consultant Moreland Heritage Nominations Study, Extent Heritage, 2022;

Construction dates 1910,

Hermes Number 206424

Property Number

Physical Description 1

The subject site consists of two semi-detached, single-storey dwellings in the Federation style. The dwellings are characterised by a shared hipped terracotta tile roof with a decorative terracotta ridge capping and finial, and share a central chimney with face brick, a decorative profile and a pair of terracotta chimney cowl. The aerial image shows that both dwellings have an additional chimney each towards the rear. Both dwellings have a curved timber bay window wrapping around the front facade to the side elevation, with four small and eight large windows and a rendered curved window sill. They also have a second timber casement window which is visible from the side lane of each dwelling. Both dwellings have had their secondary roofs replaced, from the roof ridge towards the rear, and have been extended. Concrete footpaths have been installed leading to the side entrances to both dwellings.

Key differences to each dwelling include the following:

- The leadlight windows of No. 637 appear to have been replaced, while the original leadlight at No. 635 is intact.
- No. 635 has had an additional window added to the front facade.
- While both dwellings are rendered, No. 635 has been completely rendered whereas No. 637 retains face brick below the dado line likely to have been originally tuck pointed.
- The fretted timber brackets to both verandahs are of differing styles. Without a close inspection it is difficult to identify if the timber joinery to No. 637 is original, though it is in keeping with the style. The timber joinery at No. 635 appears to be a replacement though it includes some timber characteristics seen on other dwellings of this style. It is important to note here, as identified by Ian Evans, that 'architects and builders went to considerable trouble to ensure that each Federation house, while conforming to the requirements of its style and period, had its own individual appearance. Particular attention was paid to verandah posts and brackets' (The Federation House, p. 60).
- The front boundary fence to No. 635 is rendered brick topped with a palisade fence, whereas No. 637 has a low face brick and tile wall evidently dating from the post-war years. The front boundary fence to No. 635 is more in keeping with the character of the subject site, though neither is original nor particularly sympathetic to the style,

which would typically be associated with a timber picket style fence.

- The front setback garden to No. 635 contains a range of plants which screen views of the dwelling, while the front setback of No. 637 contains one recent planting.

The front elevation at No. 637 is more intact than No. 635, though No. 637 has been extended towards the rear more substantially.

Park Street is a wide street lined with native plantings such as gum trees and *Melaleuca linariifolia* ('Snow in summer'). The housing stock on the northern side of Park Street within the vicinity of the subject site is characterised by a mixture of Victorian, Federation and Inter-War dwellings. subject site is located opposite the Hardy Gallagher Reserve.

The dwelling pair have been well kept and are in good condition

Integrity

No. 635:

- Window added to front facade*
- Render of entire facade*
- Timber posts and brackets possibly replaced
- Front boundary fence replaced
- Rear roof replaced
- Extended at the rear

No. 637:

- Stained glass replaced with clear glass*
- Timber posts and brackets possibly replaced
- Front boundary fence replaced with low cream brick wall*
- Rear roof replaced
- Extended at the rear

Both dwellings have undergone some alterations and additions and are considered to have moderate integrity as a pair, though No. 637 is highly intact as viewed from the front.

* Denotes element that detracts from the cultural significance of the place.

Physical Conditions

The dwelling pair have been well kept and are in good condition.

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/>