
Fernside (Former)



'Fernside', 25 Queen Street
KEW

Location

25 Queen Street KEW, BOROONDARA CITY

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO820

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - November 26, 2021

What is Significant?

The property at 25 Queen St, Kew with brick residence is significant. The attic-storey villa was built in 1856 and first occupied by solicitor Frederick Bayne and his family. The villa has a gabled slate roof with front and side parapets. The rendered front facade has a Victorian Regency treatment.

How is it significant?

25 Queen Street is of local historic and architectural significance to the City of Boroondara.

Why is it significant?

The former 'Fernside' is historically significant for its capacity to represent an aspect of the pattern of settlement in the City of Boroondara. After the slow-moving first attempt at dividing one of the large Crown portions into small suburban lots at the Kew Estate, development of the area around Kew Junction in the mid-to-late 1850s was gradual and ad hoc. Some subdivisions produced larger lots on which the wealthy built mansions, such as the eight-acre lot for 'Roxeth'. There was also a scattering of lots of one or two acres which were taken up by owners with middling incomes. These houses, some weatherboard and others brick, typically had four to six rooms, and the lots on which they stood were big enough for orchards and gardens, stables and outhouses. Further development in the 1860s would involve filling in the interstices between these lots, and further subdivisions of the existing lots. (Criterion A)

While a number of large mansions survive, there are few of the modest middle-class dwellings left from the 1850s in Kew and in Boroondara more widely. Often, as one would expect in an increasingly prosperous suburb, those that survived were altered and extended later in the nineteenth century to make more substantial dwellings, overshadowing or eliminating the earlier fabric. The former 'Fernside' is unusual in that the integrity of the house has been maintained, with only small and sympathetic additions in the 1980s. The former 'Fernside' has lost the integrity of its original landscape, but that has happened to most of the other examples as well. (Criterion B)

The former 'Fernside' is architecturally significant as an intact Victorian Regency style villa from the 1850s. It exhibits typical features of the style such as a symmetrical form and placement of openings, a corniced parapet to the front, and a front verandah with an elegant convex hipped roof. (Criterion D)

Heritage Study/Consultant Boroondara - Municipal-Wide Heritage Gap Study Volume 4: Kew, Context, 2018;

Hermes Number 208321

Property Number

Physical Description 1

This is an attic-storey rectangular-plan brick building. The brickwork is in English bond. The front (north) facade is finished in ruled rendered, with the remaining facades in face brick, now painted.

The architectural treatment of the building fits into the Victorian Regency style. The front facade features a high parapet with a deep stringcourse moulding. At the corners of the facade are shallow pilaster mouldings, with small inset panels between the string moulding and the top of the parapet. The front facade also features a corrugated-iron concave awning verandah which retains its original rafters. The verandah posts have been replaced. The front door has a plain fanlight. The flat-arched windows on either side are plain double-hung sashes with single lights. The door and windows have simple stucco-moulding surrounds.

The flat top of parapet is taken around the sides for a short distance with a simplified stucco moulding, before the parapet angles up to follow the pitch of the gable roof.

The east side elevation features a central three-over-six sash attic window, and a c1925-40 photo shows a similar attic window on the west elevation. A six-over-six sash window survives on the east side of the rear (south) elevation.

The steeply pitched gable roof is clad in slate. The two chimneys are placed symmetrically on either side of the front pitch of the roof, with their outside faces continuous with the parapet. The chimney shafts are plain with mouldings on the caps following the main moulding of the front facade parapet.

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/>