
Herborn House

Location

88 Pleasant Road HAWTHORN EAST, BOROONDARA CITY

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO601

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Hermes Number 208906

Property Number

Physical Description 1

Herborn House has a generous setback from Pleasant Road, behind a semicircular drive entered via two sets of mild-steel vehicular gates with tapered, rendered piers. This same configuration is shown on Nicholls' plans of 1929.

The house is single-storey with rendered walls with a U-shaped plan. The main roof has a low hip, following the U-shaped plan, with very wide, flat eaves extending out from it, creating a horizontal emphasis. The eaves are strongly defined by boxed gutters with angled fascias (this form is mirrored in the reverse by the fascias of the front pergola and corner window hoods). The open side of the 'U' is open to the facade and holds an entrance courtyard with a small fountain at its centre. The courtyard is enclosed by low battered rendered walls that contain planters, above which sits a pergola. The chunky pergola columns have very unusual geometric capitals and bases which are square with indented corners. The remaining three walls of the

courtyard comprise solely of window and door openings between columns. Early photos of the house from Australian Home Beautiful show that these same columns, both freestanding and engaged, were used to articulate the interior as well. There are two glazed front doors, side by side on the back wall of the courtyard. The windows are casements with narrow horizontal margin glazing at the top and bottom.

Due to the U-shaped plan, the facade is articulated as two pavilions around the entrance courtyard. Each pavilion has a large, protecting vertical mass at the centre. On the west side this is a wide, rectangular chimney, while on the east side, it is a projecting bay that terminates at the eaves. On either side of each projecting mass are corner windows beneath eyebrow-like flat hoods which continue the line of the central pergola. The low battered walls that enclose the courtyard are interrupted by the chimney breast and projecting bay, but then start again beneath the corner windows.

The house appears to be highly intact, even retaining its original or early white limewash.

In the rear yard, set well behind the house, is a two-storey Modernist studio with a cream-brick wall to the laneway, and steel-framed glazed walls to the garden. It has been sited with care so as not to intrude upon the 1920s house and appears to sit on the footprint of the small garage shown in the 1931 site plan.

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/>