
Leumascot

Location

5 Windsor Crescent SURREY HILLS, BOROONDARA CITY

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO632

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 23, 2022

What is significant?

No 5 Windsor Crescent, Surrey Hills, dates from 1901, and is a substantial brick Federation house, prominently sited on a corner allotment opposite the Surrey Hills railway station and reserve. The broad roof of the house comprises the main transverse gable form with gabled bays to the north and east ends, and two hipped bays to the south. Visible chimneys are brick with rendered cornices and terracotta pots. The roof also incorporates two verandahs, on the north and east sides. The jointed red face brick walls have a cement dressed stringcourse below the windows. The windows are generally timber-framed double-hung sashes, differing in form and detailing to the north and east bays. The former has a pair of windows with bluestone sills, while the latter has a tripartite window arrangement. The gable details also differ; the east gable has brick with roughcast render and half-timbering, while the north gable has brick and render, which was once covered by timber trusswork or a similar treatment, and a tiled awning over the window. The verandahs have the same detailing, with timber post supports, timber balustrades with timber balusters with a pierced Arts & Crafts pattern, and carved brackets to the posts. The front door has two lights above a large cricket-bat moulding, and large side and highlights – all filled with Art Nouveau-influenced leadlights. The north verandah was partially infilled, c.1920s, with half-timbered and shingled walls to create an enclosed entry. The bluestone front steps were moved at this time. A red brick and gable roofed bay at the south end of the house has a timber and shingled gable treatment set above a canted bay window which may also be a c1920s alteration. The allotment rises up to the south, with the house sited in a landscaped setting with curved asphalt pathways, established trees and cultivated garden beds with hedge borders. There are two driveways, one to the west side of the north boundary leading to a small non-original car

port structure, and the other at the south end of the east boundary. The site is enclosed on the north and east boundaries by a non-original timber picket fence with decorative posts and corner gateway.

How is it significant?

The property at 5 Windsor Crescent, Surrey Hills, is of local historical and aesthetic/architectural significance to the City of Boroondara.

Why is it significant?

The property, known as Leumascot at 5 Windsor Crescent, Surrey Hills, dates from 1913, and is of local historical significance. It is associated with a subdivision of 1883, which occurred at the peak of Surrey Hills' nineteenth century real estate boom. The lapse that occurred before the house was built is also consistent with the local pattern of blocks standing empty, following the economic downturn of the early 1890s and later. The Windsor Park Estate subdivision was noted for its adoption of English, and indeed royal street names, a method also used elsewhere in Surrey Hills to increase the appeal of subdivisions. No 5 Windsor Crescent is also of local aesthetic/architectural significance. The dwelling is a substantial, comparatively externally intact and prominently sited Federation brick house, which interestingly reflects a move in Federation architecture away from the more complex roof forms of the earlier Federation period (1890-1900). This house has a dominant tiled roof integral with the verandah, but one with a comparatively simple profile. The house also avoids other common Federation characteristics, such as a strongly diagonal form with a return verandah or angled corner bay, especially of interest here given the location on a prominent street corner. While the house can broadly be compared to other large Federation houses in Boroondara, in this context it is significant as a lively and inventive design, with contrasting treatments and detailing to the north and east sides of the house, including differing treatments of the bays, windows and verandahs. The house is also amongst the most commanding in its street, where large properties dominate. The gabled bays to the east and north sides are particularly prominent.

Hermes Number 208907

Property Number

Physical Description 1

The property at 5 Windsor Crescent is a large single storey 1901 brick Federation house, prominently sited on a corner allotment opposite the Surrey Hills railway station and reserve. The broad roof of the house comprises the main transverse gable form with gabled bays to the north and east ends, and two hipped bays to the south (Figure 97). Visible chimneys are brick with rendered cornices and terracotta pots. The roof also incorporates two verandahs, on the north and east sides. The jointed red face brick walls have a cement dressed stringcourse below the windows. The windows are generally timber-framed double-hung sashes, differing in form and detailing to the north and east bays. The former has a pair of windows with bluestone sills, while the latter has a tripartite window arrangement. The gable details also differ: the east gable has brick with roughcast render and half-timbering, while the north gable has brick and render, no half-timbering, and a tiled awning over the window. The north gable detailing indicates that there was some sort of decorative treatment set in front of the roughcast render, possibly timber trusswork. The verandahs have the same detailing, with timber post supports, timber balustrades with timber balusters with a pierced Arts & Crafts pattern, and carved brackets to the posts. The front door has two lights above a large cricket-bat moulding, and large side and highlights - all filled with Art Nouveau-influenced leadlights.

The two verandahs are partly infilled. Both end bays of the east verandah have been infilled, the south end with brick walls, for the toilet installed in 1911, and the north end with weatherboard-clad walls, some time after 1958. The west end of the north verandah was enclosed to shelter the front door, and the bluestone front steps moved from their original location directly in front of the door to the side.²⁵⁴ This work appears to date from the 1920s, with half timbering to the lower walls and timber shingles above the windows. A red brick and gable roofed bay on at the south end of the house (Figure 100), appears from the building envelope shown on the 1911 property service plan to be an original part of the house. The gable treatment the east elevation facing Alexandra Crescent has timber-shingle cladding and decorative timber trusswork that reference the half-timbering to the original east gable. The canted bay window, with a timber shingle hood, set below this gable is not shown on the property service plan, but had been added by 1958. Judging from its details, it may date to the 1920s, like the front verandah enclosure.

The allotment rises up to the south, with the house sited in a landscaped setting with curved asphalt pathways, established trees and cultivated garden beds with small hedge borders. There are two driveways, one to the west side of the north boundary leading to a small non-original car port structure, and the other at the south end of the east boundary. The site is enclosed on the north and east boundaries by timber picket fence with decorative posts and corner gateway that is not original.

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/>