
Helenslea, 3 Hood Crescent



3 Hood Crescent Caulfield North, September 2000

Location

3 Hood Crescent CAULFIELD NORTH, Glen Eira City

Municipality

GLEN EIRA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO115

Heritage Listing

Glen Eira City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

"Helenslea" was built for Sir George Stephen, MLA, barrister and mining investor by 1863. It was built with an address to Glen Eira Road with the driveway gates close by the present Helenslea Road corner. The present address is no. 3 Hood Crescent, Caulfield North. It is historically, aesthetically and socially significant.

It is historically significant (Criterion A) as the home of Sir George Stephen, MLA for Collingwood, barrister and mining investor and for its capacity to demonstrate Caulfield's early attraction as a residential retreat for

Melbourne's eminent citizens. It is aesthetically significant (Criterion E) as a villa residence characteristic of the mid Victorian period, predating the use of cast iron and comparing in this respect with Charles Webb's "Farleigh" (1865) at 6 Farleigh Grove, Brighton. Its substantial nature causes it to be the earliest surviving mansion house in the Municipality. The porch, external austerity and opulent entrance hall and staircase are important contributory elements whilst the survival of the exterior surfaces predominantly in an unpainted state enhances its level of integrity. It is socially significant (Criterion G) for its association with Shelford C.E.G.G.S. since 1922.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Glen Eira - City of Glen Eira Heritage Management Plan, Andrew Ward, Architectural Historian, 1996;
Other Names	"Helenslea" now Shelford C.E.G.G.S.,
Hermes Number	35212
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

A substantial two storeyed stuccoed Italianate villa with hipped slate roof and facade sub divided into two main parts, the former west facing side with tower having been demolished. The porch is the principal stylistic element having round arches and pedimented parapet with triglyphs, plain metopes and balustrading and an encaustic tiled floor. The walls are mostly in unpainted stucco, having been re-finished at different times and the ornamentation is sparse, being limited to the porch, eaves brackets and frieze mould. There is a timber posted verandah and single storeyed wing at the rear where a former principal room has a faceted north facing bay.

Inside, the original staircase with stained glass window at the landing and ornamental plaster ceilings to the entrance hall are in situ. Elsewhere, the spaces are representative of their period. There is also a cellar (not inspected) and mature conifer and palm at the entry, the picket fence having been rebuilt to approximate its earlier appearance.

Physical Description 2

Condition: Medium, evidence of structural movement.

Physical Description 3

Integrity: Medium, part demolished.

Historical Australian Themes

Caulfield as a location for Melbourne's gentry. Education (private)

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/>