
Auburn Uniting Church Complex

Location

79A-81 Oxley Road Hawthorn, BOROONDARA CITY

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H2034

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO164

HO209

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Significance of Individual Property

1. Architecturally significant as the best example of Lombardic Romanesque church design in Australia, for the major complex amongst Wesleyan establishments in Victoria, and for the major work by the architect Dunn.
2. The Auburn Uniting Church has historical significance as a major public building complex, comprising church, Sunday school, parsonage and caretaker's cottage. The church was recognised as "the finest Wesleyan Church in Victoria" with associated school and parsonage which, "while simpler, are also substantial, of the same materials, and sympathetic in style". The complex is significant for its early associations with Wesleyan Methodism, an important religious congregation in colonial Victoria, and with the influential Hawthorn Methodist circuit. With one of the largest church memberships, this circuit had the finest set of properties (churches, schools and parsonages) in Victoria and was responsible for the foundation of MLC, a leading educational establishment for girls.

3. Historically significant as a local landmark and indicative of the importance of this precinct as the heart of Hawthorn.

HO164 Leslie Street Precinct, Hawthorn

The Leslie Street Precinct, Hawthorn, which includes both Leslie Street and the Urquhart Estate and Oxley Road precincts, is an area of heritage significance for the following reasons: The place illustrates most of the significant development phases affecting Hawthorn including the early years of settlement (1835-1855), the growth of Hawthorn as a Victorian garden suburb, the Federation-era prosperity of 1901-1919; and interwar concepts of the garden suburb.

- The place contains a number of individually significant buildings exemplifying High Victorian and Italianate design, the Federation style in its formative phase, and a series of characteristic interwar designs.

- Individually significant buildings in the Oxley Road precinct include institutional buildings such as St Columbs Church, Auburn Uniting Church and its accompanying buildings, and notable houses including *Terrick Terricks and Auburn House*.

- The place has a particularly well-preserved and notable collection of the prevailing house styles of the 1880s through to the 1930s, with homogeneous concentrations of style in several streets. The interwar Old English and Mediterranean is particularly well represented in Urquhart Street and Swinburne Avenue and homogeneous arrays of 1920s Bungalows are found in The Boulevard and Lyall Street. Oxley Road, Elmie and Goodall Streets have a good variety of Victorian and Federation houses. Leslie Street is a homogeneous run of 1880s workers' cottages, and Minona Street has a relatively intact group of small late interwar housing units.

- Through the road layout, the footpaths transecting parts of the precinct, the broad street lawns in the Urquhart Estate component, mature street trees and other landscape features, and concrete road paving (Swinburne Avenue), the place clearly demonstrates the application of the 'garden suburb' ideal as variously interpreted in the later nineteenth century, Federation and inter-war periods. In Hawthorn the precinct compares interestingly with its primarily Victorian and Federation predecessor, the Grace Park Estate (HO 152). The Urquhart Estate component (Urquhart Street, Swinburne Avenue, and The Boulevard) was the last substantial land holding in Hawthorn to be subdivided for residential purposes (in 1919).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Hawthorn Heritage Study, Meredith Gould Conservation Architects, 1993; Boroondara - Review of Heritage Overlay Precinct Citations, Lovell Chen P/L, Architects & Heritage Consultants, 2006;
Other Names	Also 3 Hepburn Street, Auburn Uniting Church Complex,
Hermes Number	50661
Property Number	

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/>