
St. Dominic's Priory

Location

816 Riversdale Road, Camberwell, Boroondara City

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO228

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 1991

Significance of Individual Property

Architecturally, an outstanding, complete and early example of the English domestic or Queen Anne revival style which was soon to become one of Camberwell's most popular Edwardian styles: of State importance.

Historically, important resident, John Michael Higgins, significant figure in war-time administration and in a range of applied scientific work in the public sphere. The house also expresses the previous subdivision by its design, siting and scale and connections with the dominican Order are also distinctive. Most Catholic parishes were not staffed by religious orders and hence a priory such as this is unusual in suburban Melbourne: of State importance.

The Dominican church itself is a major landmark and departs to an extent from contemporary Catholic parish church design.

HO228 Holyrood Estate and Environs, Camberwell

The Holyrood Estate and Environs, Camberwell, is named after the Riversdale Road 'Holyrood' mansion (by Reed, Smart and Tappin, 1890, now St Dominic's Priory) from which the land was taken to create the Estate. The estate is an area of heritage significance for the following reasons:

- The place features a highly intact collection of 1920s-30s housing.
- The place strongly reflects the Camberwell municipal by-laws of the time which sought to raise and maintain the level of amenity and consistency within the Camberwell area through controlling the size of houses, front and side setbacks and materials.
- The place contains the notable St Dominic's Church, which was constructed at the time the Estate was developed.
- The place comprises a generally intact interwar landscape with concrete roads and related mature street trees.

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| Heritage Study/Consultant | Boroondara - Camberwell Conservation Study, Graeme Butler, 1991; Boroondara - Review of Heritage Overlay Precinct Citations, Lovell Chen P/L, Architects & Heritage Consultants, 2006; |
| Other Names | formerley, Holyrood, |
| Hermes Number | 51939 |
| 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/>