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# The Biancardi House



B6282 Biancardi House

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## Location

20 Yarra Street,, KEW VIC 3101 - Property No B6282

## Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

## Level of significance

State

## Heritage Listing

National Trust

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 6, 2005

The Biancardi House, designed in 1958, is architecturally significant at a state level because it embodies many of the aims and aspirations of its era in form, detail and materials. It is also important in being the work of the significant firm of architects and educators Gerd & Renate Block. It was included in the publication *Best Australian Houses of 1962*.

The valley in which it was built had been left undeveloped for nearly a century, ostensibly because of the difficulty in providing access and services. However throughout the 1950s the area was settled with houses of the then-ruling Contemporary Style leading to it becoming an exemplar of the period. To take advantage of the view of the Yarra, the house was angled on its site and its multi-faceted form further enabled most main rooms to enjoy the river vista. The elevations consist of large, uninterrupted window areas alternating with masonry panels. These panels consist of bricks laid on edge in basket weave bond. Although extended in 1985 the house still retains the clarity of its original conception.

The main rooms are on the upper level; the ground level being given over to bedroom, playroom, carport and

services. The structural system is minimal and painted black, consciously giving the impression of the house being suspended above its site. This treatment is continued with the detailing of the metal and timber stair and the extensive in-built furniture.

Classified: 11/12/1991

Hermes Number 65237

Property Number

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*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/>*