

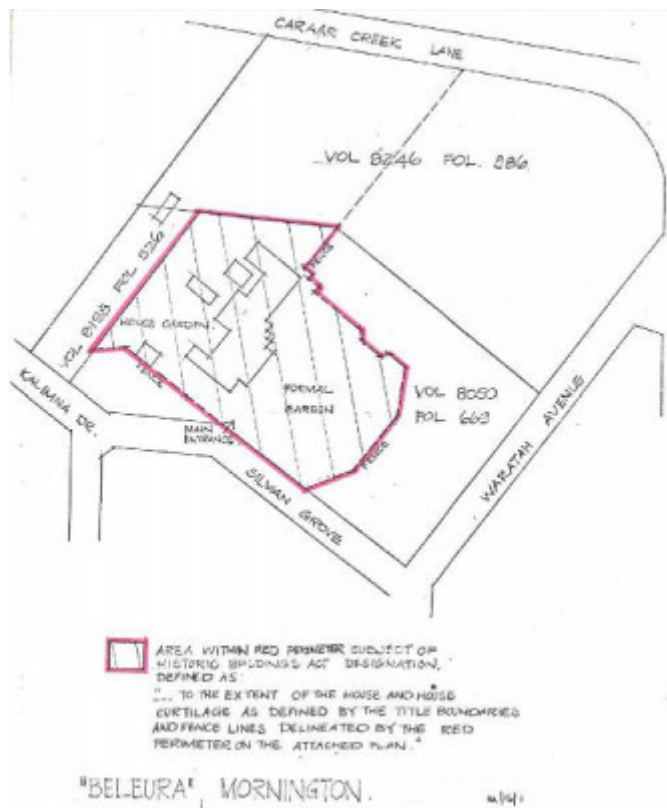
# BELEURA



1 beleura kalimna drive  
mornington front view



beleura kalimna drive  
mornington view of garden  
nov 1977



beleura plan.JPG

## Location

1 TALLIS DRIVE MORNINGTON, MORNINGTON PENINSULA SHIRE

## Municipality

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0319

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO104

## VHR Registration

October 9, 1974

## Amendment to Registration

October 4, 1978

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 7, 1999

### What is Significant?

Erected by James Butchart between c.1860 and c.1865, Beleura is one of several stately homes constructed as summer retreats along the Mornington Peninsula between 1860 and 1890 for Victoria's rich and famous. The Mornington Peninsula is the second such precinct in Victoria displaying this social phenomena; Mt. Macedon is the first.

In 1870 the property was purchased by Charles E. Bright, who married Anna Manners-Sutton, daughter of Viscount Canterbury, Governor of Victoria from 1866 to 1873. For a brief period between 1881 and 1882 Beleura functioned as an educational institution and was leased by the Mornington Grammar School. Theatrical entrepreneur, George Tallis, who was knighted in 1922, purchased the property in 1915 as a summer retreat and, on retirement, developed it as an Ayrshire stud. The estate was taken over by John Tallis, George's son, in 1949 and the property is now managed as a house museum by the Tallis Foundation.

Constructed in Free Classical style, Beleura is built on a granite foundation with stuccoed brick walls. The main feature of the single-storeyed rectangular house is the Corinthian colonnade veranda and balustrade parapet; the tower was added at a later date. No plans of the original house or the site are known to exist and there is no record of the architect or builder.

John Tallis built on the Italianate influences of the original design and made a series of changes to the interior and exterior of Beleura. Melbourne artist and student of Norman Lindsay, Wesley Penberthy (1920-), produced a series of ceiling paintings, in the entrance hall (1951) and drawing and dining rooms (1954), considered to be the first in Australia painted using polyvinyl acetate (PVA) finish to produce a matt fresco appearance.

The garden contains features from three main periods including the original nineteenth century drive way layout,

rear courtyards and coniferous trees; the early twentieth century addition of a formal pool designed by Harold Desbrowe Anear; and, John Tallis' mid twentieth century Italian influenced embellishments consisting of a formal rose garden and statuary.

### **How is it Significant?**

Beleura is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

### **Why is it Significant?**

Beleura is of architectural significance as fine example of a nineteenth century villa in Free Classical style with Italian influenced features, most notably, the colonnade veranda, balustrade parapet, and formal gardens.

Beleura is historically significant for its association with the pattern and establishment of grand summer retreats along the Mornington Peninsula during the nineteenth century.

*(Online Data Upgrade Project 2007)*

## **Permit Exemptions**

### **General Exemptions:**

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must [notify](#) the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

### **Specific Exemptions:**

General Conditions: 1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object. General Conditions: 2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible. Note: All archaeological places have the potential to contain significant sub-surface artefacts and other remains. In most cases it will be necessary to obtain approval from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria before the undertaking any works that have a significant sub-surface component.

General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: A Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan provides guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan.

General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions. General Conditions: 5. Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable. Minor Works : Note: Any Minor Works that in the opinion of the Executive Director will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place may be exempt from the permit requirements of the Heritage Act. A person proposing to undertake minor works must submit a proposal to the Executive Director. If the Executive Director is satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage values of the site, the applicant may be exempted from the requirement to obtain a heritage permit. If an applicant is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that the permits co-ordinator be contacted.

Construction dates            1863,  
Heritage Act Categories    Registered place,  
Hermes Number                850  
Property Number

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## Extent of Registration

Historic Building No. 319, "Beleura" (to the extent of the house and the house curtilage as defined by the Title boundaries and fence lines), 42-44 Kalimna Drive, Mornington.  
[Victoria Government Gazette No.92 - October 4, 1978 p.3156]

*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/>*