

Seeger House Statement of Significance

Heritage Place:	Seeger house 26 Goldthorns Avenue, Kew	PS ref no:	HO930
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What is significant?

26 Goldthorns Avenue, Kew, is significant. It was built in 1938 for Victor C. Seeger by his brother, builder William F Seeger. The designer has not been identified.

The dwelling including external fixtures such as the front entrance lanterns, the attached garage, the rubble-stone retaining wall and mild-steel front gate, and the brick fences with pointed-arched doors to the backyard, are significant.

How is it significant?

26 Goldthorns Avenue is of local architectural and aesthetic significance to the City of Boroondara.

This document is an incorporated document in the Boroondara Planning Scheme pursuant to section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*

Why is it significant?

26 Goldthorns Avenue is a fine and highly intact representative example of the interwar Old English style. It demonstrates key elements of this style, such as a steeply pitched complex roof form with vergeless gables and corbelled eaves, the use of clinker face brick, the presence of substantial chimneys, diamond leadlight windows, and an oriel window. The intact, attached garage, facing Griffiths Grove, also demonstrates the growing importance of car ownership during the interwar period, and the move away from distant detached garages typical of the 1920s. (Criterion D)

26 Goldthorns Avenue is of aesthetic significance for its landmark qualities as a three-dimensionally modelled building set on a prominent elevated corner site. The built form responds to its site with picturesque massing appreciated from three sides. Its aesthetic significance is enhanced by the extensive high-quality decorative details seen on the house and its setting. These include brickwork detailing (the use of overburnt bricks, diaper pattern of projecting headers, ribbed frieze to the eaves, quoins to windows and gables, herringbone pattern to gable apexes, basketwork detail to gable vents, tapering vault at the front door), matching mild-steel balusters to front steps, balcony and front gate, medieval lanterns around the front entrance, original front door with linen-fold moulding, elaborate strap hinges and bulls-eye glazing, and the matching garage with its original timber doors. Its aesthetic significance is further enhanced by the intactness of its setting and retention of rubble-stone retaining walls, mild-steel front gate, curved front path, curved brick walls around the garage, and high brick walls with ribbed brickwork detail and pointed (Criterion E)

Primary source

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