

57 Berkeley Street, Hawthorn Statement of Significance

Heritage Place:	Chesney Wolde 57 Berkeley Street, Hawthorn	PS ref no:	HO938
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What is significant?

The Federation-style villa, Chesney Wolde, and its garden setting on a double-block, at 57 Berkeley Street, Hawthorn is of local significance to the City of Boroondara.

How is it significant?

57 Berkeley Street, Chesney Wolde, is of representative value (Criterion D) and of aesthetic value (Criterion E) to the City of Boroondara.

Why is it significant?

Chesney Wolde is a fine and early example of a house, which is representative of the substantial villas built south of Riversdale Road during a period of intensive residential development of this area of Hawthorn between the 1910s – 1940s. This residential development was stimulated by improved public transport, in particular the opening of an electric tram line along Riversdale Road to the city in 1916, around the same time Chesney Wolde was built. The house, built on one of two blocks of the site, demonstrates the evolution of this part of Hawthorn as a select locality for the homes of the middle and professional classes and their desire for comfortable living in a garden suburb setting. (Criterion D).

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

Chesney Wolde is a fine and intact example of a Federation-style villa. It is well-executed in its use of materials and the application of Arts & Crafts detailing. Elements that contribute to its aesthetic value are its asymmetry, both in terms of its siting on its block and the composition of the house. Elements of note on the house include its L-shaped verandah and its detailing, the curved bay window and diagonal projecting gable where the verandah returns along the side of the house, leadlighting in its windows; and materiality including its unglazed terracotta tile roofing, roughcast render finish walls, and half timbering of gable ends. The house, sited on the higher portion of its double block, is further enhanced by its broad site that creates a large garden setting for the house when it is viewed from Berkeley Street (Criterion E).

Primary source

57 Berkeley Street, Hawthorn Heritage Citation (Peter Barrett, August 2020)