What is significant?

The row of terrace houses at 500-512 Tooronga Road, Hawthorn East is significant. No. 500 (Shanklin) contributes to the group to the extent of its remaining façade features that match the other individual terraces.

How is it significant?

The row of terrace houses at 500–512 Tooronga Road, Hawthorn East, are of local historic, representative (architectural) and aesthetic significance to the City of Boroondara.

Why is it significant?

The row of terrace houses developed in 1890 by Hawthorn veterinary surgeon Robert Utber for the speculative rental market is significant for its demonstration of the terrace house typology within an area of Boroondara where this is uncommon. A limited number of long terraced rows are evident in Boroondara’s suburbs, largely clustered to the north and south of Hawthorn Railway Station, or on Elgin and Connell streets, and Morang and Evansdale Roads. The presence of such a substantial
terrace row in Hawthorn East is an unusual type of development in a suburb of detached houses. (Criterion A)

500-512 Tooronga Road, Hawthorn East is a row of seven single storey terrace houses, six of which are largely intact from the street frontage. The row is representative of the distinctive Australian terrace house form that emerges in the 1860s to 1890s and displays the principal features of this style including the party walls and parapets defining the extent of each dwelling, the small front yards, low fences and repetitive form. (Criterion D)

The row of terrace houses at 500-512 Tooronga Road, Hawthorn East is aesthetically significant for its consistent façade features that are intact with symmetrical, narrow fronts, chimneys, central parapet with classical details in cast-cement and incised render wall detail. They retain a high level of original detail including original cast iron frizies to most houses. No.500 (Shanklin) contributes to the row in so far as the parapet has been retained. The attributes of aesthetic significance include a single original cast-iron verandah post, a centrally located triple-paned window, and a panelled timber entrance door. The cast iron fences and gates at 508 and 510 are aesthetically significant. The terraced row is also a landmark in Tooronga Road, being quite different to its suburban surroundings. (Criterion E)

Primary source

City of Boroondara Municipal-Wide Heritage Gap Study Volume 6: Hawthorn East

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