

31 Dickens Street, Moonee Ponds Statement of Significance April 2021

Heritage Place:	Tyneside	PS ref no:	HO516
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31 Dickens Street, Moonee Ponds, principal elevation (April 2018) (source: Context, 2018)

What is significant?

31 Dickens Street, Moonee Ponds, a late Victorian era Italianate villa built c.1900 is significant. Two mature Fan Palms (*Trachycarpus fortunei*) in the side garden are also significant.

Significant fabric includes the:

- single-storey asymmetric built form with a projecting bay;
- main hipped roof form and slate roofing;
- unpainted face brickwork;
- original chimneys and eaves detailing;
- original pattern of fenestration and elements of window and door joinery;
- curtilages of the allotment.

The discreetly rear extension is not significant.

How is it significant?

31 Dickens Street, Moonee Ponds, is of local architectural significance to the City of Moonee Valley.

Why is it significant?

31 Dickens Street, Moonee Ponds, is significant as an example of a Victorian-era Italianate villa with some Queen Anne style features. The Italianate style is well represented in the Heritage Overlay in Moonee Valley with detached houses forming the largest typological grouping. Individually significant

examples comparable with 31 Dickens Street include 3 Aberfeldie Street, Essendon, 1892-1897 (HO143), 23 Brown Avenue, Ascot Vale c.1891 (HO392), 28 Nicholson Street, Essendon, 1891 (HO265), each of which demonstrate the same single-storey and asymmetrical form as 31 Dickens Street with variations of detail.

31 Dickens Street is a fine and intact example of an Italianate villa of restrained detailing with a Queen Anne style influence. The building retains its original building and roof forms and other features including a slate roof, eaves detailing, bichrome brickwork, window and door joinery and the cast iron front verandah. The Queen Anne style design influence extends to the form and detailing of the chimneys and the use of red brick as the main wall colour and the simplified contrasting cream brick patterning. The building retains its original building form, slate roof, face brick walls, front verandah and fenestration to the principal and side elevations. 31 Dickens Street is of high integrity with very few changes visible to original or early elements of the place. (Criterion D)

31 Dickens Street is aesthetically significant for the two mature Fan Palms (*Trachycarpus fortunei*) in the side garden, a popular nineteenth-century planting. (Criterion E)

Primary source

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