

59 and 61 Tennyson Street, Moonee Ponds Statement of Significance

Heritage Place:	Houses	PS ref no:	HO525
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59 & 61 Tennyson Street, Moonee Ponds, principal elevation (source: Context 2018)

What is significant?

59 and 61 Tennyson Street Moonee Ponds, a pair of Victorian era Italianate villas built in c.1892 is significant.

Significant fabric includes:

- single-storey, detached built form and its position as a pair (both 59 and 61);
- original hipped roof form (59 and 61) and slate roofing (61 only);
- original pattern of fenestration and elements of window and door joinery (both 59 and 61);
- unpainted brick chimneys, eaves details and verandah decoration (both 59 and 61);
- unpainted face brickwork (both 59 and 61); and
- setback at the front (both 59 and 61).

The rear extensions at both 59 and 61 Tennyson Street and the later tiled roof at number 59 are not significant.

How is it significant?

59 and 61 Tennyson Street, Moonee Ponds, are of local architectural significance to the City of Moonee Valley.

Why is it significant?

59 and 61 Tennyson Street, Moonee Ponds, are significant as a pair of Victorian-era Italianate villas. Single-storey villas of the Victorian era designed in the Italianate style are well represented on the Heritage Overlay in Moonee Valley. Detached houses are a common typology and the majority of these are single storey. Similar examples (although not found in pairs) are found at 23 Brown Avenue, Ascot Vale, c1891 (HO392), and 28 Nicholson Street, Essendon, 1891 (HO265). Pairs of detached houses are less common, with the only other example on the Heritage Overlay at 27 and 29 Sydney Road, Ascot Vale, built in 1892 (HO283).

59 and 61 Tennyson Street, Moonee Ponds, demonstrate the Italianate style through their asymmetrical building forms with projecting front room and canted bay windows, cast iron verandahs, and bichrome brickwork to the walls using dark brown brick as the main wall colour offset in cream string coursing and moulding. Other elements of the style include including the unpainted brick chimneys, slate roof (of No 61), eaves details and window and door joinery. 59 and 61 Tennyson Street are of high integrity comparable with other examples and with very few changes visible to original or early elements of the place. (Criterion D)

Primary source

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