Address:	5 Wando Grove, St Kilda East	Name:	House
Place type:	Residential: House	Grading:	Significant
PS ref no:	HO549	Constructed:	1918
Heritage	Not applicable	Citation No:	2423

# 5 Wando Grove, St Kilda East Statement of Significance



## What is significant?

The house at 5 Wando Grove, St Kilda East, constructed in 1918 for Thomas Armstrong and designed by Howard R Lawson, is significant.

The house is single storey with an attic. Contributory features include the prominent steeply pitched hipped roof is clad in terracotta tiles, central hipped dormer with four windows, hipped roof bays, wide eaves with exposed rafters, tall brick chimneys with protruding brick detailing, face red brick walls, porch with square brick piers and a low brick wall, faceted bay window, timber framed windows with multi-paned upper sashes, and a recessed entrance with a timber board door and a multipaned window on one side. Alterations and additions are not significant.

### How is it significant?

The house at 5 Wando Grove, St Kilda East is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the City of Port Phillip.

## Why is it significant?

The house is historically significant as representative of the intensive development that occurred during the early Interwar period in this part of St Kilda/St Kilda East in the context of local population expansion. Originally forming part of the extensive grounds of the Victorian period mansion Oakleigh Hall, the subject site derives from a small 1917 subdivision on the east side of Wando Grove of seven allotments, five of which were soon after developed with houses designed by prolific architect/designer Howard R Lawson (including 342, 344 and 346 Dandenong Road and 3 Wando Grove, the latter now demolished). (Criterion A)

The house is of aesthetic significance as a highly intact example of the early Interwar period in the Bungalow style. Typical of the style, the influence of the Arts and Crafts aesthetic is evident in the wide eaves with exposed rafter ends and face red brick walls. The impression of a symmetrical composition and the generally contained footprint is suggestive of the Craftsman subtype of bungalow, although not strictly conforming. The house is distinguished by its dominant steeply pitched

hipped roof and low walls, whereas other contemporary examples more commonly had gable roofs and tall façades. Howard R Lawson designed many houses and flats in St Kilda but the subject house is one of only two known single storey examples to survive, and of these it is the most distinctive. (Criterion E)

#### **Primary source**

RBA Architects & Conservation Consultants, HO7 Elwood St Kilda Balaclava Ripponlea Precinct Heritage Review Stage 2, 2022