

Statement of Significance: Houses

Address:	110-118 Barkly Street & 2-6 Blanche Street, St Kilda	Name:	Houses
Place type:	Residential: houses	Grading:	Significant
PS map ref (Heritage Overlay):	HO507	Constructed:	1910-1912



What is significant?

The group of eight houses, including two pairs of semi-detached houses and one detached house at 110-118 Barkly Street and a terrace of three houses at 2-6 Blanche Street, St Kilda, constructed from 1910 to 1912 by builder James Downie, is significant.

The high timber picket fences on each property are not significant. Non-original alterations and additions to the houses and the modern timber carport at 2a Blanche Street are not significant.

How is it significant?

The houses 110-118 Barkly Street and 2-6 Blanche Street, St Kilda are of local historic, representative and aesthetic significance to the City of Port Phillip.

Why is it significant?

The group is of historical significance for their association with the residential development of St Kilda after the economic depression of the 1890s. Built between 1910 and 1912, at a time of increased population growth and economic recovery, they are representative of Edwardian-era speculative housing development on the remaining vacant sites in St Kilda. (Criterion A)

They are representative examples of Federation/Edwardian housing built as an investment by a single builder using standard designs to ensure the houses could be built efficiently and economically, but with variations in detailing to achieve individuality and visual interest and avoid repetition. The design of the houses demonstrates the transition from the Victorian to Federation/Edwardian styles with Victorian era details such as the brick chimneys with moulded cornices, finely detailed cast iron verandahs, slate roofs and terrace house form combined with Federation/Edwardian details such as the red brick construction, and gable-fronted roofs with half-timbering. (Criterion D)

Aesthetically, it is significant as a cohesive and distinctive group due to their shared materials, details, setback and form. They are of note for the unusual decoration of the gable ends of 110 and 112 Barkly Street, and 2, 4 and 6 Blanche Street, which features oculi with timber louvres, above highly

ornate rendered garland swags, which form a striking feature against the red brick backgrounds.
(Criterion E)

Primary source

Context Pty Ltd, *Heritage Assessment. 588-590 City Rd, South Melbourne*, 25 May 2017

Port Phillip Heritage Review, Volumes 1-6 (Exhibition Version Amendment C161port, June 2020)