

Statement of Significance: Houses - December 2021

Address:	152 & 154 Mitford Street, Elwood	Name:	Houses
Place type:	Residential: Duplex	Grading:	Significant
PS map ref (Heritage Overlay):	HO511	Constructed:	1915



What is significant?

The attached houses, designed by Schreiber & Jorgensen and constructed in 1915, at 152-54 Mitford Street, Elwood are significant. Typical of early bungalows they have Arts & Crafts detailing and employ design simplicity for their time. The plain roughcast wall surfaces, the shingling to the gables and the bracketed eaves, and use of simple gable roof forms and multi-paned and corner windows are all influences from the Arts & Crafts movement. The boxed corner windows in particular are an unusual and distinctive feature. Also of note are the details that demonstrate Japanese influences including the relatively low pitch of the roof, the timber joinery details including the projecting purlins in the street facing minor gable, the flat-roofed porches with paired posts and unusual fretwork and the 'moon arch' doorways. There are three chimneys, each placed centrally at the gable ends of the main roof and the street facing minor gable.

Non-original alterations and additions are not significant.

How is it significant?

The attached houses at 152-54 Mitford Street, Elwood are of local architectural and aesthetic significance to the City of Port Phillip.

Why is it significant?

It is significant as a finely detailed and early example of bungalow design that demonstrates both Japanese and Arts and Crafts influences. The Japanese influence is demonstrated by the relatively low pitch of the roof, the timber joinery details including the projecting purlins in the street facing minor gable, the flat-roofed porches with paired posts and unusual fretwork and the 'moon arch' doorways, while the Arts and Crafts style is expressed through the adoption of simple building forms, materials and some details that are innovative for their time such as the corner windows. It is also significant as an unusual building type as a 'bungalow duplex' that has been skilfully designed to fit a small site. (Criteria A, D & E)

Primary source

Helms, David, *Port Phillip Heritage Review Update*, 2019

Port Phillip Heritage Review - Volumes 1-6 (Panel Version Amendment C161port Part 2, December 2020)