

COLLINS HOUSE

Address	45 Bronte Street, Heidelberg
Significance	Local
Construction Date	1954
Period	Postwar
Date Inspected	June 2020



Statement of Significance

What is Significant?

Collins House at 45 Bronte Street, Heidelberg is significant. It was constructed in 1954 on the Adamson Estate, established during the late 19th century but which remained largely undeveloped until after WWII. It was likely designed by Robin Boyd for carpenter John Morgan Collins, who presumably constructed it, and his wife Joan Patricia (*née* Fitzgerald).

The significant elements are the front (north) wing, attached west wing, the skillion roofs, soffit/s lined in slatted timber boards, walls clad in weatherboards and canted window wall to the front wing.

The front garage and bungalow located in the southwest corner are not significant.

How is it Significant?

Collins House is of historical and aesthetic significance to the City of Banyule.

Why is it Significant?

Collins House is of historical significance for its likely connection with Robin Boyd, one of the foremost architects and design commentators of postwar Australia, when he was a principal of Grounds, Romberg and Boyd – Melbourne's leading architectural practice of the 1950s and early 1960s. *Collins House* is among the earliest examples of a boldly designed 'modern' postwar

house in the municipality, which are particularly uncommon in this locale and provides a stark contrast from its contemporary neighbours. (Criterion A)

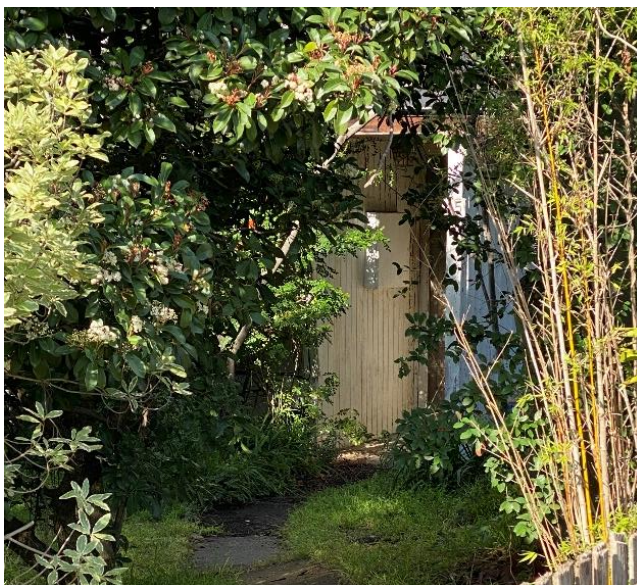
Collins House is aesthetically significant for being a largely intact and distinctive timber example of an early modernist house in the municipality. Its character is broadly indicative of progressive design currents in the mid-1950s, including some of Boyd's key interests in this phase, such as the bold articulation and clear volumetric expression achieved via the broad skillion roofs and expansive canted window, which is orientated to take in views. Such elements are evocative of the postwar modern movement, especially the Melbourne variant of the type. (Criterion E)

Description

The rectangular allotment, near the corner of Martin Street, has an area of 820m². The site extends to Shirley Grove to the south and slopes about 2 metres (down) from west to east. There is no fence to the front boundary; however, there is one setback some 10 metres from the front boundary in line with the house. The front of the property is defined by established shrubs and trees, which largely screen the house from the public domain, although there are partial views from some vantage points. There is a short concrete driveway to the east end, commensurate with the garage, which projects forward of the house. The garage is white painted, red brick (evident where the paint has failed) with a patio over. The latter has a decorative metal balustrade typical of the 1950s. The metal tilt door is likely original to the garage.



Collins House from the east



Collins House, entry path

The original, single-storey house has an L-shaped footprint and consists of two wings – front (northern) and rear (western). Both have a long skillion roof, clad in profiled metal sheeting. The two wings interlock or overlap at the northwest corner so that the entry bay likely forms part of the rear section.

The front wing may have a concrete floor raised at the east end under a partial undercroft. There is a wide fascia to the facade, and the soffit is lined with slatted timber boards (stained or painted), which run the length of the façade. Where visible, the side walls clad in white painted weatherboards and vertical boards are evident near entry at the west end, but a doorway is not apparent. The use of weatherboards was unusual for the believed designer, Robin Boyd, suggesting that he is unlikely to have supervised the construction. For timber-framed buildings, progressive architects would typically employ vertically orientated timber boards to distinguish their buildings from the suburban norm (evident near the entry).

A forwardly canted window wall is visible at the east end of the north wing façade and presumably extends along its length. While exposed to the street, it was said in late 20th-century advertisements to provide panoramic views. The windows are timber-framed, and three vertical divisions are evident, comprised of larger fixed, upper and lower bands with a narrow central band of openable (probably awning) windows.

Canted window walls were a novel detail in residential architecture in the mid-1950s. However, Boyd had employed a similar forwardly angled version previously at his own house in Riversdale Road, Camberwell (1946) and the *Nicol House*, Warrandyte (1949-50). These two earlier examples are not as tall as this instance (as the roofs have a lower pitch) and consist of two bands of windows with some openable panes to the upper band. In 1953, the architect Peter McIntyre unusually incorporated a reverse canted window wall at the *Stargazer House* in North Balwyn.¹

The rear/western wing is also partly visible. It is clad in weatherboards and has a central band of timber-framed windows, which is not continuous and consists of a wider lower fixed pane and narrower upper openable pane.

There is a later addition bungalow in the rear, south-west corner close to Shirley Grove. It has a flat/skillion roof and is clad in white painted weatherboards with aluminium-framed windows.

¹ Philip Goad, 'Modern House in Melbourne 1945-1975', PhD Thesis, University of Melbourne 1992, chapter 5, p55

History

Context

The City of Banyule covers the unceded Country of the Wurundjeri-willam people, who have inhabited and managed its landscape for thousands of generations and maintain an ongoing cultural connection.² The lightly wooded grasslands of what became known as 'Ivanhoe' and 'Heidelberg' were quickly targeted for sheep runs and by timber-cutters from the 'illegal squatter camp' downstream the *Birrarung/Yarra* at Melbourne (est. 1835).³ However, as part of the 'Heidelberg' district in the Parish of Keelbundora, this area passed rapidly into private hands via auction in Sydney Town in 1838.⁴

Over the following decade, a patchwork of 'prestige' estates emerged, along with a surveyed township – *Warringal* (possibly 'eagle's nest'), later 'Heidelberg' – on the river's west bank.⁵ Productive river flats, and the demands of the gold diggings further afield, encouraged market gardening, orchards and (gradually, due to soil exhaustion and flooding) dairying. Activities all mostly undertaken by tenant farmers.⁶ This perceived rural idyll enticed *plein air* artists to the district during the 1880s, fixing the 'Heidelberg School' within Australia's artistic consciousness.⁷

Intensive residential development was curbed by poor communications with Melbourne until 1901, when an improved railway line was laid, initiating 'four decades of slow and relatively affluent suburban sprawl', predominantly in and around the Heidelberg township as well as Eaglemont and Ivanhoe train stations.⁸ The broader locality of Heidelberg underwent a postwar development as tracts of pastoral land in its western reaches were transformed into mostly low-scale public housing estates. Heidelberg West, notably, also accommodated the Olympic Village (an Australian innovation) for the 1956 games (some 841 individual dwellings).⁹ Throughout, the established environs of Heidelberg – undulating and river-orientated – consolidated as a middle-class area, characterised by single-family, detached housing.



View of semi-rural Rosanna, circa 1914
(Source: Cyril Cummins, *A pictorial history of Heidelberg Since 1836*, Heidelberg Historical Society, 1982, p71)

² Context, *Banyule Thematic Environmental History*, October 2018, pp15-20, available online

³ James Boyce, 1835: *The Founding of Melbourne & The Conquest of Australia*, Black Inc., 2011, pxi

⁴ Keelbundora stems from a European rendering of Kulbundora – the name of the eldest son of the important Wurundjeri *ngurungaeta* (essentially 'head man') Billibellary. ('Suburban Native Names', *Argus* 28 April 1906, p5). One of the earliest manifestations of local governance in the Port Phillip District (1840), the fluctuating borders of municipal Heidelberg mirrored its growth, as it was reformatting into a Road District (1860), Shire (1871) and then City (1934). It was amalgamated as the City of Banyule in 1994.

⁵ Donald S Garden, *Heidelberg: The Land and Its People 1838-1900*, Melbourne University Press, 1972, p13

⁶ Robert P Whitworth, *Bailliere's Victorian Gazetteer*, F F Bailliere, 1879, pp237

⁷ Context, *Banyule Thematic Environmental History*, sections 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.3.5, and 2.3.10; and Janine Rizzetti, 'Heidelberg', in Richard Broome et al, eds., *Remembering Melbourne 1850-1960*, Royal Historical Society of Victoria, 2016, p282

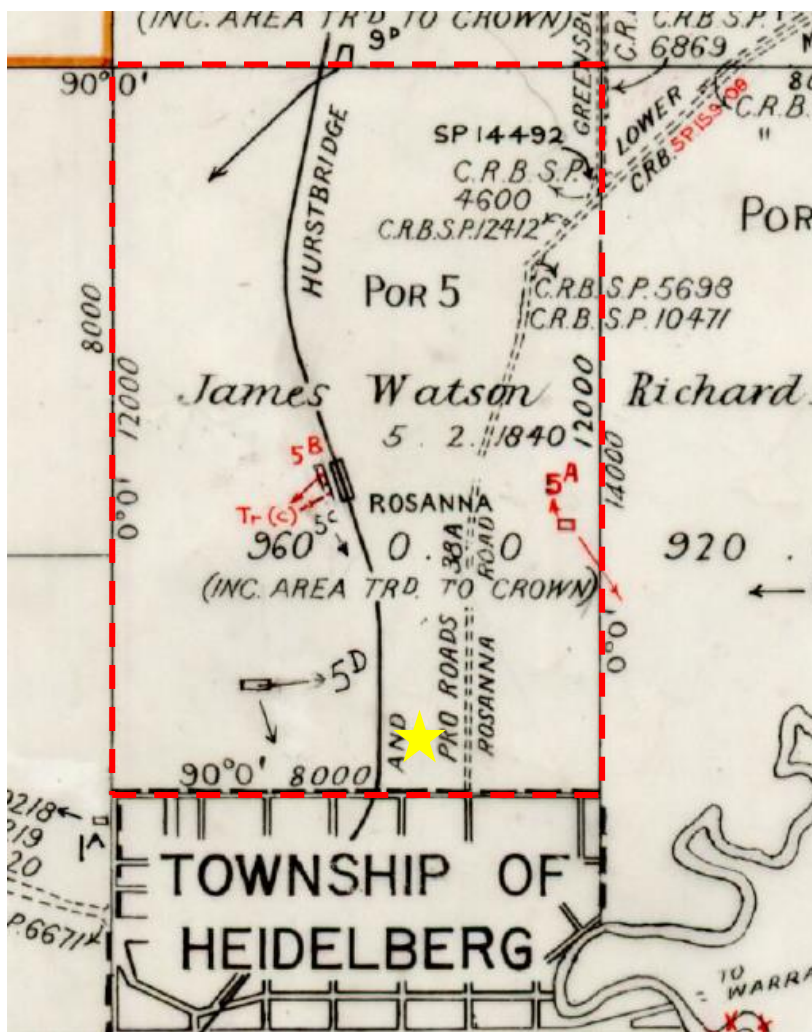
⁸ Don Garden, 'Heidelberg', *eMelbourne*, School of Historical & Philosophical Studies, The University of Melbourne, July 2008, available online

⁹ Geoffrey Ballard, 'Olympic Village', *eMelbourne*, School of Historical & Philosophical Studies, The University of Melbourne, 2008, available online

Site-specific

The site formed part of a vast Crown Allotment north of the original Township of Heidelberg – Portion 5 in the Parish of Keelbundora – consisting of 388 hectares. This portion had been reserved for the Resident Judge, John Walpole Willis, by the New South Wales Government; however, he rejected the offer. Instead, the land was acquired by James Watson of Watson & Hunter in February 1840 for £4,080. A rate considerably higher than the surrounding parcels, which had been otherwise sold in September 1838.¹⁰ At the time, this company were one of the largest pastoral companies in the District of Port Phillip, operating as agents for a group of Scottish aristocrats.

Portion 5 was reputed to have poor agricultural prospects due to a lack of water access. But noting its proximity to the nascent *Warringal* (Heidelberg) township, Watson proceeded to subdivide and sell his acquisition, named *Rose Anna Farm* ('Rosanna') after his Scottish bride, Elizabeth Anna Rose, within weeks of purchase.¹¹ It appears that these early land dealings were confused and may not have been official. As the colonial economy slackened over the early 1840s, the majority of these purchases reverted to Watson & Hunter. The company declared insolvency in 1843 (the Scottish backers accused of 'gross mismanagement' and censured 'for their extravagant style of living'). The 'Rosanna Estate', after much legal wrangling, was transferred to James Brown, who leased it to multiple small-scale tenant farmers.¹²



Extract from Keelbundora Parish Plan with Portion 5 outlined in dashed red

A yellow star depicts the approximate location of subject land (Source: Keelbundora Parish Plan)

¹⁰ Cyril Cummins, ed, *A Pictorial History of Heidelberg since 1836*, Melbourne, Heidelberg Historical Society, 2nd ed, 1982, p15

¹¹ Garden, *Heidelberg: The Land and Its People 1838-1900*, pp21-2, 43; and Cummins, *A Pictorial History of Heidelberg since 1836*, p15

¹² Garden, *Heidelberg: The Land and Its People 1838-1900*, p93; and Paul de Serville, *Port Phillip Gentleman*, Melbourne, Melbourne University Press, 1981, p157

The Brown family retained ownership of the majority of Portion 5 into the late 1870s when notices announcing its breakup began to appear:

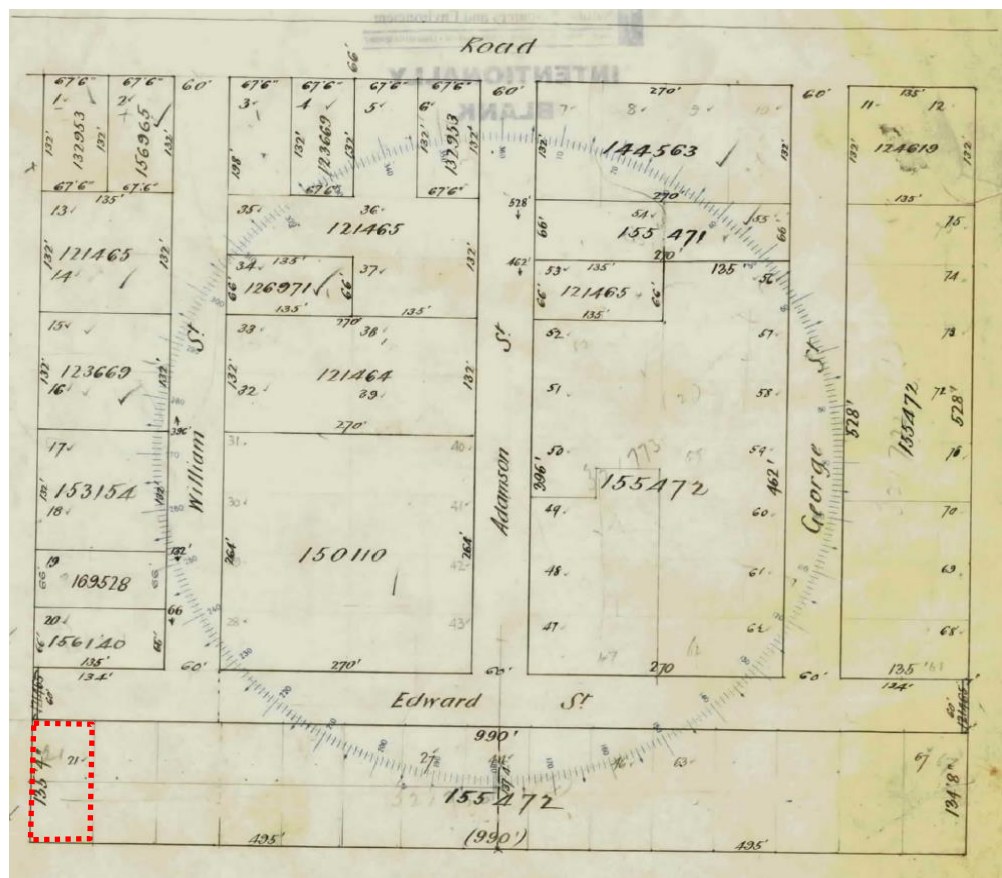
The Rosanna Estate, Heidelberg, comprising 870 acres [note this figure varies] of valuable freehold land, suitable for agricultural, dairy farm, and other purposes, delightfully situated in one of our most rapidly increasing suburbs. It is at present distant only eight miles, but will doubtless be very shortly brought within railway connexion with the metropolis, whereby its value must be immensely increased.¹³

By November 1881, the estate had been acquired by the Heidelberg Land Company, formed by Matthew Henry Davies and Charles Henry James, both later infamous 'land boomers' who owned vast tracts of land across Melbourne. James consolidated ownership of the estate, which had been 'land banked', around 1885.¹⁴ He initially campaigned for a private railway between Heidelberg and Eltham to run through this holding. When that fell through, James then backed the government line to nearby Heidelberg (est. 1888). Yet the sharp economic downturn of the early 1890s curtailed any wholesale speculative intentions for the Rosanna Estate. By 1897, it had passed into the hands of the liquidators.¹⁵

In December 1881, James Alexander and William Addison Adamson, commission agents of Melbourne, acquired nearly 8 hectares of Portion 5, including the subject land.¹⁶ They undertook what ultimately became a 75-lot subdivision in 1883 bound by St James Street (north), Radnor Street (east, originally George Street), Bronte Street (south, originally Edward Street), and Woburn Street (west, initially William Street).¹⁷ The subdivision, on offer for sale from early 1883, was advertised as the 'Adamson Estate':

75 VALUABLE FULL-SIZED ALLOTMENTS

All of which have frontages to 66ft road a by noble depths, the whole of which will be pegged and marked out so a intending purchasers can inspect each lot previous to sale.¹⁸



Adamson Estate with the subject allotment outlined in dashed red (Source: Certificate of Title, vol 1311, folio 082)

¹³ 'Preliminary Notice', *Argus*, 10 June 1879, p2

¹⁴ Garden, *Heidelberg: The Land and Its People 1838-1900*, pp139-41

¹⁵ Garden, *Heidelberg: The Land and Its People 1838-1900*, p181

¹⁶ Certificate of Title, vol 1311, folio 082

¹⁷ Subdivision plan LP510. The date was 23 August 1883. Initially, there was a lot (no 23) at the north end of Martin Street – so that it did not connect with Woburn Street (originally William Street).

¹⁸ *Herald*, 26 April 1883, p4

In October 1885, James Kelly, a Melbourne draper, acquired over half the estate (36 lots) from the Adamsons, including the subject land (Lot 21), which was located in its southwest corner.¹⁹ A sales notice of April 1888 for 34 lots must relate to those that Kelly purchased three years prior:

In the charming suburb, having frontages to William, Adamson, George and Edward streets, and to an unnamed Government road, one chain wide. A visit to the spot will be quite sufficient for anyone on the look-out for a healthy and desirable building site. The Heidelberg railway line is to be opened up for traffic on the first of May, 1888, only three days after the sale of this property, but arrangements have been made with the Railway Department for a special train to leave Clifton-hill station ...²⁰

About fifteen years later, in July 1901, Leofwyn Ewart Gladstone Gamble, then aged 14, inherited two adjoining lots – nos 21 (45 Bronte Street) and 22 (71-73 Martin Street), which he would officially attain at the age of 21 (in 1908). Gamble, later a farmer,²¹ held the sites for over five decades years. During that time, the allotments may have been utilised for agriculture, like much of the broader locale.²²



Plenty Road, Rosanna – photographed about 1914 – either rural setting either side
(Source: Cyril Cummins, ed, *A Pictorial history of Heidelberg since 1836*, 2nd ed, 1982, p70)

The lack of development is evident in plans and aerial photographs dating to the early to mid-1940s, by which time the street named had been changed from Edward to Bronte.²³ The 1942 MMBW detail plan (below) identified the subdivision pattern but depicted only a handful of residences in the vicinity of the subject allotment.

Similarly, a 1945 aerial photograph (following) shows that development remained sparse in this part of Heidelberg. While along the main roads such as the north side Lower Plenty Road, many houses had been constructed, most streets in the Adamson Estate were not apparent, even as dirt tracks, although the land had been cleared with only some trees in the area that was to become the Bronte Street remaining.

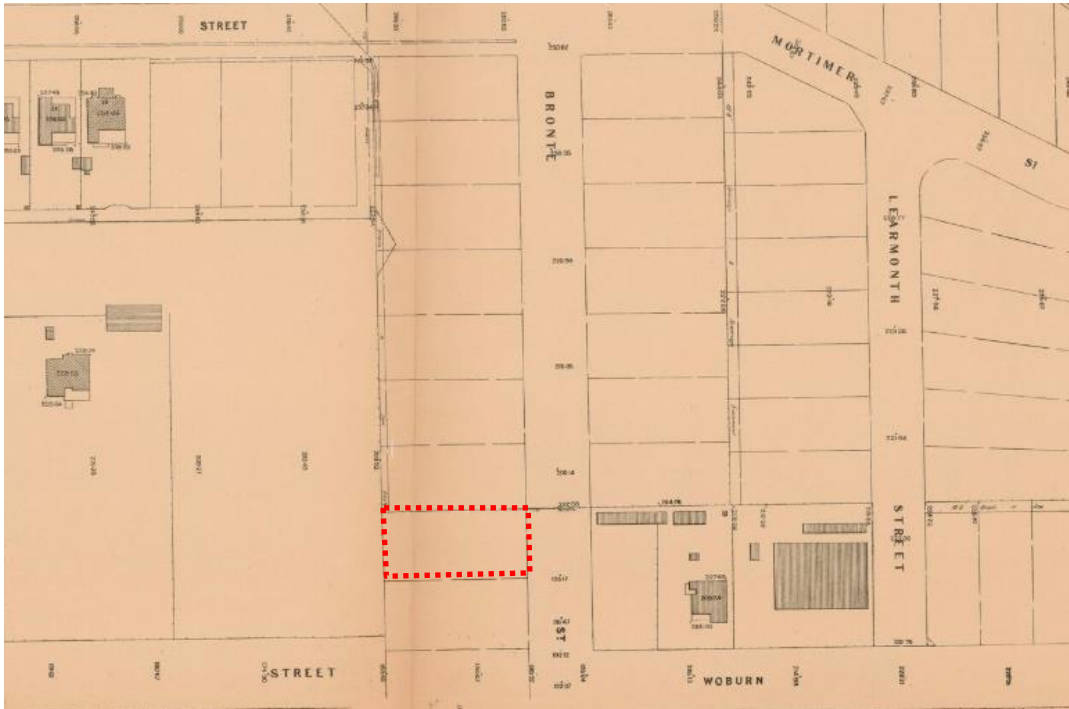
¹⁹ Certificate of Title, vol 1311, folio 082 and vol 1747, folio 231

²⁰ *Argus*, 14 April 1888, p16

²¹ *Argus*, 19 May 1920, p15

²² Certificate of Title, vol 2829, folio 731

²³ While there are no listings in Bronte/Edward Street at this time in the *Sands & McDougall's Directory of Victoria*, it is noted as the southern end street for Adamson Street. In 1938, Edward Street was noted whereas in 1940, Bronte Street was listed. The name was presumably changed as there was another Edward Street off Greensborough Road in Heidelberg.



MMBW detail plan no 2520, dated 1942
 The undeveloped subject allotment is outlined in dashed red
 (Source: SLV)



1945 aerial, showing approximate location of subject site
 (Source: Department of Lands and Survey, *Aerial Survey of Victoria*, Adastral Airways, 839 C3C)

Parts of the Adamson Estate were sewered by 1950 when a notice indicates that such works were being undertaken in the east part of Bronte Street along with Adamson Street and others.²⁴ Only one house was listed as being occupied in Bronte Street in that year with two others being erected.²⁵

John Morgan Collins, carpenter of Ascot Vale, and Joan Patricia Fitzgerald, typist of East Preston, purchased the subject allotment in July 1954.²⁶ The *Collins House* was constructed during that year.²⁷ The design of the house is said to be a commission of Robin Boyd, the seminal Australian architect/social commentator, though this has not been definitively confirmed.²⁸ However, the employment of a canted window wall is reminiscent of Boyd's own house at 158 Riversdale Road, Camberwell (1946) as well as his *Nicol House*, Warrandyte (1949-50).

No documentation for this project has come to light, so that working drawings were probably not prepared, nor was the construction supervised by Boyd.²⁹ This circumstance may have arisen because Collins himself may have constructed the house as he was carpenter and it was difficult, as well as expensive, to procure a builder in the years immediately after the Second World War, when owner-builder projects were commonplace.³⁰

John Collins and Joan Fitzgerald were married in 1955, a year after they bought the site together.³¹ At the time, John was working at A E Bond P/L,³² a building company based in Elwood, which operated during the late 1940s through the 1950s.³³ John died only a year after the purchase in April 1956 at the age of 24.³⁴ In May 1956, when the probate was advertised, the married couple lived at separate addresses – 42 The Parade, Ascot Vale (John) and 13 Joffre Street, Reservoir (Joan) – and not at the subject place.³⁵

At the time of John's death, the *Collins House* appears to have been completed as evidenced on the following aerial photography dating to February 1956, which shows that the front (north) wing and attached wing (west) to the rear had been constructed, as well as the brick garage. As the couple were not residing there, it is possible that internally the residence had not been completed.³⁶ There had been much residential development in the vicinity since 1945 though only the western part of Bronte Street had asphalted and guttered. The section in front of the *Collins House* remained a dirt track. Similarly, Mann Street had not been sealed.

Joan Patricia Collins became the surviving proprietor in March 1958, when she was still listed at 13 Joffe St, East Preston.³⁷ Joan remarried in 1959 to Leon Edward Jose Walsh.³⁸ On 18 November 1959, the place was transferred to both Joan and Leon, identified as a motor mechanic. On the title, the couple are noted as in residence at *Collins House*.³⁹ In 1960, Leon and Joan Walsh were also listed at the site, their professions respectively noted as contractor and typist.⁴⁰

The Walsh's retained ownership of the site until June 1963, when it was transferred to Donald William, engineer, and Bell McCamley, who was then living at the site. It was subsequently sold during September 1969, then again in September 1974 and July 1979, with none of these proprietors noted as living there.⁴¹ Its March 1979 auction notice follows below with a description of *Collins House*.

²⁴ 'Board of Works', *Age*, 4 May 1950, p7

²⁵ *Sands & McDougall's Directory of Victoria*, 1950, p510

²⁶ Certificate of Title, vol 8050, folio 934

²⁷ Information extracted from the council property valuation archive by council officers

²⁸ The association of Boyd with this place came by the nominator, reportedly from an authority at the Robin Boyd Foundation. There is no record of this house in the *Grounds, Romberg and Boyd collection*, MS 133363, [SLV].

²⁹ Banyule Council have no drawings, etc.; Correspondence with the Robin Boyd Foundation, 10 March 2021

³⁰ Searching for tender notices produced no results on TROVE, etc.

³¹ BDM Victoria, registration no 8712/1955

³² 'Deaths', *Age*, 9 April 1956, p11

³³ *Age*, 9 February 1949, p15. The company was located in Tennyson Street according to an advertisement.

³⁴ BDM Victoria, registration no 7894/1956. Collins was born in Melbourne in 1932, son of Albert John and Maud (née Smith).

³⁵ 'Law Notices', *Argus*, 12 May 1956, p6

³⁶ *Sands & McDougall's Directory of Victoria*, at this time, does not list anyone at the subject site. However, the directories appear particularly unreliable in this part of the municipality at this time and have proven to routinely be a few years out of date.

³⁷ Certificate of Title, vol 8050, folio 934

³⁸ BDM Victoria, registration no. 9118/1959

³⁹ Certificate of Title, vol 8050, folio 934

⁴⁰ Victorian electoral roll, 1960, Division of Deakin, Subdivision of Heidelberg p136

⁴¹ Certificate of Title, vol 8050, folio 934

According to the 1979 auction notices, the bungalow to the south-west corner had been constructed by that time.



February 1956 aerial photograph with the subject place outlined in dashed red
(Source: Landata, Project 250, Run 14, Frame 114)

HEIDELBERG. Auction Sat., Mar. 24 at 12 noon on the property, 45 Bronte St. Outstand. contemp. home on delight. garden block with panoramic views. Feat. Incl. entry, spac. lnge-dining with door to patio, well fitt. kit., 2 dble. bedrms. (master with BIRs), bung. with cook. facs. and shwr. rec., ideal in-law accomm., qual. WW carps. thr'out., curts., ELF's, &c. Garage. Terms: 10 p.c. dep., bal. 60 days.
AUCTIONEER R. W. HAUGHTON & SON P.L., RESI, 86 Mount St., Heidelberg.
4595500; AH 4359622, 451725.

Collins House description at sale
(Source: Age, 10 March 1979, p5)

Robin Boyd (1919-71)

Robin Gerard Penleigh Boyd was one of Australia's pre-eminent architects, cultural critics and public educators. His prominence and influence were such that he was one of the few architects to have become a household name during and after the postwar period, attaining a broad reputation – rare for his profession – as a public intellectual. His life and work have been subject to comprehensive academic review.⁴²

Born into the famous Melbourne artistic family, Boyd's father Penleigh was a highly regarded landscape painter who designed and built the family home, *The Robins*, in North Warrandyte in 1913. His mother Edith Susan (*née* Anderson) was also an accomplished artist, especially at drawing.⁴³ After Boyd's father's death in 1923, the family moved to a flat in Toorak then a brick bungalow in East Malvern from where he undertook his secondary school education. He studied architecture at Melbourne Technical College (now RMIT) and the University of Melbourne before being articled to the leading practice of A & K Henderson. Boyd's burgeoning interest in modernism often put him at loggerheads with the conservative forces in the profession, especially through his nascent critiquing activities in *Smudges*. Boyd worked as an assistant for (Sir) Roy Grounds during the late 1930s.

In 1941, Boyd married Patricia (*née* Madder) and served in Queensland and Papua New Guinea during the Second World War. Subsequently, he began solo practice and entered into a short-lived, unofficial partnership with Kevin Petherbridge and Francis Bell as Associated Architects. Between 1947 and 1953, he became the founding director of the pioneering and inventive RVIA Small Homes Service, which provided contemporary architectural outcomes to the public at an affordable price. The services support by the *Age* newspaper provided Boyd with a popular weekly column and, over hundreds of pithy but pointed articles, he projected his vision of urban design, taste and 'modern' living into the public discourse.⁴⁴ At this time, Boyd designed his first house in Camberwell in 1947 and published the first of several provocative books, *Victorian Modern*. Other publications now regarded as classics include *Australia's Home* (1952) and *The Australian Ugliness* (1960).

In 1953, Boyd formed the partnership of a generation – Grounds, Romberg & Boyd – with (Sir) Roy Burman Grounds and Swiss-trained émigré architect Frederick Romberg, though they tended to work separately. This resolutely modernist practice dissolved in 1962 with the bitter wrangle over the National Gallery of Victoria and Cultural Centre commission, which was taken by Grounds. Romberg & Boyd continued until Boyd's sudden death.⁴⁵ His awards and honours were numerous.

Boyd's celebrated architectural output was prodigious and was almost exclusively residential. Several of his houses are seminal modernist works and he explored a range of ideas about enclosure with them. He is famed for the singularity of many of his designs, including his second home in Toorak of 1957, which has been purchased as museum/design foundation.

Thematic Context

Context, *Banyule Thematic Environmental History*, October 2018:

- Theme 5: Suburban development

See also Allom Lovell & Associates, *Banyule Heritage Place Study: An Urban History*, vol 1, July 1999:

- 6.4 Post-War Residential Development

Comparative Analysis

Four houses designed by Boyd are currently included in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay in Banyule. Three of these heritage places date to the mid-1950s when he was part of the practice of Grounds, Romberg and Boyd (HO110, HO148, HO160). The other, *Featherston House* (HO65), was constructed in 1968 and represented a different phase of his output.

Two other houses by Boyd are also being recommended as part of this Study, both of which date to the 1950s. Boyd's other known projects in the municipality are shop/supermarket at 73 Haig Street, West Heidelberg (1954, since demolished) and *Burgess House*, Ivanhoe (1965), which alterations have severely compromised.

⁴² The literature on Boyd is extensive - Serle, *Robin Boyd: A Life* is the definitive biography; see also 'Robin Boyd: Special Issue', *Transition*, no 38, 1992; and Goad, 'Boyd, Robin', in Goad and Julie Willis, eds, *The Encyclopedia of Australian Architecture*, Cambridge University Press, 2012, pp100-2

⁴³ Marjorie J Tipping, 'Boyd, Theodore Penleigh (1890–1923)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, 1979, available online

⁴⁴ Neil Clerehan, 'Boyd, Robin Gerard (1919–1971)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, 1993, available online

⁴⁵ Philip Goad, 'Grounds, Romberg & Boyd', *Melbourne Architecture*, 1999, pp250-1

The following HOs are broadly comparable *Collins House*:

- *Victor & Peggy Stone House*, 22 Mount Eagle Road, Ivanhoe, 1954 (HO110) – obscured from the street with a garden designed by Ellis Stones, this two-storey house is also located on a sloping site. Much of the façade is blank with a combined entry canopy and carport. The brickwork was bagged and there were brise-soleil (sunscreens) to the large rear window wall, which took in the views to the east.
- *Holford House*, 14 Hardy Terrace, Ivanhoe, 1955 (HO148) – at this design, Boyd explored a combination of his key mid-1950s ideas or formats, encompassing a parasol roof with a U-shaped pod beneath about a central courtyard. This house has a carport to the front and incorporates breeze block grille/screens into the bagged brick walls.
- *Joseph Simpson House*, 35 Douglas Street, Rosanna 1958 (HO160) – located on a tapering corner site and partly obscured, it similarly has an elongated form with salmon brick walls to the most visible parts of the site and is largely glazed otherwise. The beams of the roof framing are less prominent, with a fascia across their ends and a panel to the upper part of the wall so while the walls are tall, they are not full height and have a different unit configuration.
- *Featherston House*, 22 The Boulevard, Ivanhoe (HO65) – designed by Robin Boyd in 1968 for Grant and Mary Featherstone, notable industrial and furniture designers, it received a posthumous citation in the RIAA (Victoria) awards of 1972. This iconic house of tan brick with reinforced concrete floors is defined by a series of elevated platforms to a large 'garden room' featuring a full, double-height window wall to the rear. From the street, it has an unassuming presence, with a garage effectively screening it.

An array of architect-designed modernist houses are included in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay for Banyule. Most originate in the 1950s and reflect the multiplying version of mid-century modernism. The dominant influence of the International Style is prevalent, particularly its preference for rectangular footprints, cuboid forms and stripped-down aesthetic; for instance, 10 Alexandra Street, Greensborough (HO136) by Moore and Hammond, 1957. Others reveal the period's growing interest in the modular derivation of the plan, with steel or timber framing and lightweight panelling and bands of glazing. A key example of specific geometry is the 1954 *Snelleman House* (HO36 + VHR H2282) in Ivanhoe East by architects Peter and Dione McIntyre, often referred to as the 'Coil House'.

Collectively, these varied examples of modernism provide insight into the forces of modernity that shaped the district following the Second World War, particularly shifting sociocultural and economic factors and the willingness of some residents to interact with then unconventional design culture and novel lifestyle patterns.

Intactness

Largely intact

Previous Assessment

- RBA Architects + Conservation Consultants, *Banyule Heritage Study 2020: Stage 1 report*, Banyule City Council, August 2020 – High priority, recommended for Stage 2

Heritage Overlay Schedule Controls

External Paint Controls	Yes (walls of weatherboard)
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Outbuildings and/or fences	No

Extent of Heritage Overlay

The proposed extent of the heritage overlay is outlined approximately below.



Recommended extent of heritage overlay
(Source: Nearmap, April 2020)