

Statement of Significance: Larnook, 519 Orrong Road, Armadale, October 2023

Heritage Place: Larnook, Armadale

PS ref no: HO85



(Source: Nigel Lewis and Associates, 1983; Stonnington History Centre)

What is significant?

The property at 519 Orrong Road, Armadale (otherwise known as Larnook) is significant. Specifically, the form, scale, setback and detailing of the substantial 1881 boom era Italianate mansion is of local heritage significance, as well as the original gate entry point.

Later alterations and additions to the residence, tennis court, outbuildings and car park are not significant.

How is it significant?

Larnook is of local historical, representative and aesthetic significance to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

Larnook is of historical significance as a representative example of the boom era mansions constructed in the suburb of Armadale during the late 19th century, prior to the wider subdivisions of the late Victorian estates. The mansion is also of historical significance in demonstrating residential development of the south eastern suburbs by the Melbourne's wealthiest citizens during the gold rush period. (Criterion A)

Larnook has principal design characteristics attributed with late Victorian mansions. These include the use of slate, a hipped roof form, stucco render, arched projecting bay windows, and wrought iron lacework and brick verandah. (Criterion D)

Larnook has aesthetic significance as a high-quality, fine and intact example of a grand Italianate boom era mansion, comprising a wraparound wrought iron and brick verandah, projecting bays, decorative dental bracketing, arched windows, and slate roof with chimneys. Although it is not highly visible, the building is a landmark residence in Armadale owing to the scale and deep setback which contrasts with the style of later development in the area. (Criterion E)

Primary source

Larnook, 519 Orrong Road, Armadale, Citation Report, Extent Heritage Pty Ltd, October 2023.