

Statement of Significance: Shere, 1 Theodore Court, Toorak, October 2023

Heritage Place: Shere, Toorak	PS ref no: HO734
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(Source: Extent Heritage Pty Ltd, 2021)

What is significant?

The property at 1 Theodore Court, Toorak, (otherwise known as Shere), is significant. The form, scale, fenestration and materiality of the mid-century modern house is of local significance, along with the original garage and front boundary wall. The landscaping and later alterations and additions to the property are not significant.

How is it significant?

Shere is of local aesthetic and representative significance to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

Shere is of representative significance as a discernible example of innovative experimentation with pure geometric form in residential design that typified the peak of the modernist movement in Australia. This is most evident in its form, particularly its projecting roof with exposed overhanging eaves, which achieves visual boldness while simultaneously remaining lightweight in massing and scale. (Criterion D)

Shere is of aesthetic significance as an intact, visually distinct and well-articulated example of mid-century modern residence designed by prominent architect Roy Grounds.. Attributes that contribute towards its aesthetic significance include its incorporation of geometric forms as demonstrated in its striking diagonally projecting roof exposing timber clad eaves and fenestration, clear lines, symmetry, visual relationship between the interior and exterior, and finely balanced proportions. These features, along with its emphasis on form and pared back ornamentation, combine to create a bold yet timeless architectural character. (Criterion E)

Primary source

Shere, 1 Theodore Court, Toorak Citation Report, Extent Heritage Pty Ltd, October 2023.