

Statement of Significance: 16 Mercer Road, Armadale (March 2022)

Heritage Place: 16 Mercer Road, Armadale

PS ref no: HO330



(Source: Extent Heritage Pty Ltd, 2021)

What is significant?

The property at 16 Mercer Road, Armadale is significant. Specifically, the form, scale and detailing of the Victorian era dwelling with Medieval/Free Style influences is of local heritage significance. The timber front fence is contributory. The landscaping and later alterations and additions are not significant.

How is it significant?

16 Mercer Road is of local aesthetic significance to the City of Stonnington, and is associated with one of Australia's most famous mining magnates, Bowes Kelly.

Why is it significant?

Aesthetically, 16 Mercer Road is distinguished by its medieval-inspired detailing. It is a style that sets the building apart from the prevailing fashions of the Victorian era. Elements of note include the finely detailed Gothic Revival awning, as well as the front bay window with a separate hipped roof. Other aspects that contribute to the aesthetic value of the dwelling include the hipped slate roof with a projecting gable and the tuck-pointed brickwork. The building also has aesthetic significance as part of a row of three closely related dwellings at 12-16 Mercer Road, all originally built in the same style. (Criterion E)

The dwelling is associated with one of Australia's most famous mining magnates, Anthony Edward Bowes Kelly (also just referred to as Bowes Kelly), who originally owned the property along with the two neighbouring dwellings at 12 and 14 Mercer Road. (Criterion H)

Primary source

16 Mercer Road Armadale, Citation Report, Extent Heritage Pty Ltd, September 2021.