

Statement of Significance: St Georges Court Precinct, Toorak (March 2022)

Heritage Place: St Georges Court Precinct, Toorak

PS ref no: HO348



What is significant?

The St Georges Court Precinct, comprising a group of dwellings on St Georges Court and St Georges Road, Toorak, is locally significant.

All properties are graded contributory to the precinct.

Character elements that contribute to the significance of the precinct include:

- A high degree of intactness arising from the large group of Interwar era dwellings of a uniform style;
- The regularity and harmony of the two-storey, pitched roof building stock;
- Intactness of most individual buildings to their original designs. Dwellings typically survive with their presentation to the street largely unaltered, roof forms and materiality, chimneys, window and door openings, Georgian Revival details such as timber louvred shutters, porticos and entrances flanked by classical order columns, and Mediterranean influences with simpler massing and restrained detail;
- A mixture of free-standing dwellings and maisonettes;
- Consistent use of render, timber joinery and roof tiles;
- The shallow and uniform front setbacks; and
- Low rendered masonry walls.

Later additions and alterations to the properties are not significant.

How is it significant?

The St Georges Court Precinct is of local historical and aesthetic significance to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

The St Georges Court Precinct is historically significant as a subdivision of part of the 19th century Toorak Estate prior to World War II. The dwellings form a tangible link to this period of development and change in Toorak, whereby there was a shift from sparsely developed estates to a middle-class urban area. The precinct derives further historical importance from the number of quality houses designed by prominent architects for wealthy professional clients. (Criterion A)

The St Georges Court Precinct is aesthetically significant as an intact, visually cohesive and prestigious Interwar subdivision that pursues a consistent stylistic theme despite the involvement of a range of architects. The largely intact group of two-storey Interwar residences and maisonettes with Georgian Revival and Mediterranean influences, and the quality of their design to conceal multi-residential properties into what appear to be large and stately residences, contribute to the significance of the precinct as a visually distinctive residential development from the interwar period. The curve in the road and uniform shallow setback of the dwellings promotes a picturesque character and an atmosphere of seclusion. (Criterion E)

The St Georges Court Precinct has associative significance, featuring examples of the domestic Interwar work of noted architects Marcus Martin & Tribe and Billson & Mewton. (Criterion H)

Grades

Place address	Proposed Grading
1 St Georges Court	Contributory
2 St Georges Court	Contributory
3 St Georges Court	Contributory
1/4 St Georges Court	Contributory
2/4 St Georges Court	Contributory
5 St Georges Court	Contributory
6 St Georges Court	Contributory
9 St Georges Court	Contributory
10 St Georges Court	Contributory
11 St Georges Court	Contributory
12 St Georges Court	Contributory
14 St Georges Court	Contributory
15 St Georges Court	Contributory
9 St Georges Road	Contributory
11 St Georges Road	Contributory

* S: Individually significant

C: Contributory

NC: Non-contributory

Refer to Heritage Victoria's Model brief for consultants (p.6) for explanation of designations.

Primary source

HO348 – St Georges Court Precinct, Citation Report, Extent Heritage Pty Ltd, November 2021.