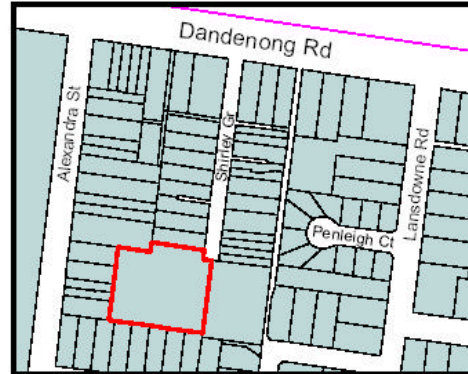


Identifier "Shirley Court"

Formerly unknown



Not within a HO area.

Address 20 Shirley Grv
ST KILDA

Category Residential:apartment

Constructed 1959-1965

Designer unknown

Significance (Mapped as a Contributory heritage property.)

Shirley Court is of significance less for the individual buildings that comprise this development than for the planning concept of flats arranged around a large garden courtyard. This design approach is more typical of Interwar flat developments than those of the 1960s and Shirley Court stands out among these later developments for its generous provision of open space. The building stock is typical in design and materials of the better flat developments of this period and the curved enclosure to the access stair adjacent to the entrance to the site is a design feature typical of Post-War International Style. The gardens, while reportedly developed in an ad-hoc manner, are now fundamental to the character of the development. Of local significance.

Primary Source

Robert Peck von Hartel Trethowan, St Kilda 20th century Architectural Study Vol. 3, 1992

Other Studies

Description

Style : International

Two and three storey multi-block walk-up flats

Shirley Court is a 1960s courtyard flat development consisting of three main blocks. Number 1 to the east consists of one bedroom flats and was built c. 1959, blocks 2 and 3 to the south and west respectively were built in the early 1960s and contain mainly two bedroom flats. Of these, block number 1 is the most stylistically sophisticated with a curved stair enclosure providing a gateway to the site. The development is unusual less for the architectural merit of the buildings than for the planning concept of flats arranged around a generously scaled common garden court planted with (now) mature trees. This court is enhanced by the sloping topography of the site and the original concept was reportedly to take advantage of the slope to provide car parking concealed under the garden. This idea was dropped with the decision in stages 2 and 3 of the development to provide two bedroom apartments over three levels and the subsequent increase in parking demand.

History

see Description

Thematic Context

unknown

Recommendations

A Ward, Port Phillip Heritage Review, 1998
recommended Conservation

References

unknown