Statement of Significance: Barton Residence (2019)

Address:	56 Thomas Street Brighton East	Name:	Barton Residence
Place Type:	Post WW11	Grading:	Significant
PS ref no:	HO170	Constructed:	1950 (south wing) and 1964 (north wing)



What is significant?

The Barton Residence at 56 Thomas Street, Brighton East, is significant including both the original (1950) southern wing and later (1964) north wing as well as the original carport to the south side. The form with low pitched roof, painted brick walls, and original timber-framed openings, are all significant elements of the design.

As the walls of the building were painted from the outset, it is appropriate to have paint controls so that a complementary colour scheme is applied to the building.

The rear garage, built during the mid-1950s, is not visible but may be a significant element.

How is it significant?

The Barton Residence is of local historical, associative and aesthetic significance to the City of Glen Eira.

Why is it significant?

The Barton Residence is of historical significance as it reflects the Post WWII phase of development in the Bentleigh/East Brighton area, which was a secondary, but nonetheless

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GLEN EIRA PLANNING SCHEME

key phase of growth. It is one of the few architect designed houses in the area and was the first house designed by the eminent architect, Neil Clerehan, after he had set up as a solo practitioner, but probably in collaboration with one of the original occupants, Norman Barton, who was undertaking his architectural studies at the time. Barton however was himself responsible for the second part, added in 1964. Initially completed in 1950, the house is a likely rare, early example of Modernism in the municipality. (Criteria A and H).

The Barton Residence is aesthetically significant as an intact Post WWII house, which was built in two stages – initially in 1950 and an addition in 1964. The addition complemented the design of the original section, as was often allowed for at the time due to the various building restrictions. It displays the hallmarks of the contemporary progressive, Modernist design approach in its site orientation, use of plain geometry, restrained palette of materials, extensive areas of glazing, and blank presentation to the street. (Criterion E)

Primary source

Glen Eira Heritage Review of Bentleigh and Carnegie Structure Plan Areas (Residential) 2019 (RBA Architects and Conservation Consultants)