

SUBMISSION TO THE KEW EAST HERITAGE GAP STUDY

From the Kew Historical Society Inc., April 2018.



The Kew Historical Society welcomes Council's initiative in undertaking a Kew East Heritage Gap Study and supports the finding of Council's consultant report with respect to the proposed additional precincts and places of local significance and Council-managed places of potential significance.

Having carefully reviewed the proposals and taken into account the local knowledge of a number of its members, the Society respectfully submits that a number of additional places be considered for protection as places of local significance. These being, grouped to accord with the themes presented in Council's 2012 *Thematic Environmental History*:

Transport – roads

- Harp Junction Garage, 29 Valerie Street, Kew East
- Former garage (Canoes Plus), 733 High Street, Kew East
- Former garage (Beaurepaires), 1417 Burke Road (cnr High Street), Kew East
- Car wash, 895 High Street, Kew East

Towns – homes

- Cronin House (Sun Post-War Home), 1535 Old Burke Road, Kew East
- Alwill View Court flats, 100 Willsmere Road, Kew East

Industries - retail

- Belford Court shopping arcade, cnr Belford Road and Kilby Road, Kew East
- The 'North Kew' shops, 765-772 High Street, Kew East

Industries – manufacturing

- D.J. Young Factory, 710 High Street, Kew East

Community Life – community organisations

- Former Baptist Church, 8-12 Woodlands Avenue, Kew East.
- Convent (Holy Spirit Sisters), 51 Strathalbyn Street, Kew East

Cultural Life - film

- Dr Tate's theatrette, 37 Harp Road, Kew (on the boundary of Kew East)

A short description of each of these suggested places of local significance follows, with the relevant 'HERCON Criteria' listed.

SUGGESTED ADDITIONAL PLACES OF LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE – KEW EAST GAP STUDY

Theme	Name	Address	Description	Relevant criteria
Transport – Roads	Harp Junction Garage	29 Valerie Street, Kew East	A 1920s garage still in active use as a garage, with original architecture still intact. Owned by the one family for many decades. One of only three garage buildings remaining in East Kew (there was once over 60 in Kew/East Kew). Was once also the home of a bus business, as was the case with many early garages. A strong connection to the beginning of the automotive era.	Criteria A: historical significance Criteria B: rarity Criteria D: representativeness Criteria G: social significance
	Former garage (Canoes Plus)	733 High Street, Kew East	A 1920s garage with the basic external building structure and forecourt still intact, albeit used for other purposes for many years. One of only three garage buildings remaining in East Kew (there was once over 60 in Kew/East Kew).	Criteria A: historical significance Criteria B: rarity Criteria D: representativeness
	Former garage (Beaurepaires)	1417 Burke Road (cnr High Street), Kew East	A 1940/50s garage with the building structure (including steel framed windows) and forecourt still intact, albeit used for other purposes for many years. One of only three garage buildings remaining in East Kew (there was once over 60 in Kew/East Kew).	Criteria B: rarity Criteria D: representativeness
	Car wash	895 High Street, Kew East	Built in the 1970s, this was the first automated carwash in Kew/East Kew and possibly Boroondara. While much modified over the years, the basic structure remains. Indicative of the change in society of DIY to service by others.	Criteria A: historical significance Criteria D: representativeness Criteria G: social significance
Towns - homes	Cronin House (Sun Post-War Home)	1535 Old Burke Road, Kew East	Identified in Heritage Victoria's 2008 'Survey of Post-War Built Heritage in Victoria'. Was the first prize winner in the Sun newspaper national architecture competition. Was considered "ahead of its time". Built 1945 and still basically intact.	Criteria C: research potential Criteria D: representativeness Criteria H: associative significance

Theme	Name	Address	Description	Relevant criteria
	Alwill View Court flats	100 Willsmere Road, Kew East	A large block of flats set in spacious landscaped grounds. One of the first blocks of flats in Kew/Kew East, possibly 1940s. Associated with the large holdings of Kodak which were going to establish a factory, but Council / residents rejected the large-scale industrialisation of the municipality. External structure intact. Very few unmodified flats of this era remain in Kew/Kew East.	Criteria A: historical significance Criteria D: representativeness Criteria E: aesthetic significance Criteria H: associative significance
Industries - retail	Belford Court shopping arcade	cnr Belford Road and Kilby Road, Kew East	Only remaining 'arcade-style' shopping arcades in Kew/Kew East. Were quite popular in the 1950/60s. The structure, layout and external features are intact. Indicative of an era when local milk bars and shops were the focus of neighbourhoods. The National Trust has previously indicated interest in the arcade.	Criteria A: historical significance Criteria B: rarity Criteria D: representativeness Criteria G: social significance
	The 'North Kew' shops	765-772 High Street, Kew East	Isolated group of retail shops of the 1930/40s, indicative of an era when local shops were the focus of neighbourhoods (existing shops were formerly a milkbar, greengrocer, butcher, etc). While some have been modified over the years, most retain their basic structure and some retain their original layout.	Criteria D: representativeness Criteria G: social significance
Industries – manufacturing	D.J. Young Factory	710 High Street, Kew East	Very few manufacturing facilities remain in Boroondara and were always limited in number. Kew East being on the edge of the former Municipality of Kew was the last developed and was where light industry was located. Until recently it was still in use, operated by a long-standing family. It mostly produced fastenings, and was the sole manufacturer of champagne bottle wires in Australia. The building is still intact and features a 'zig-zag' roof in good condition.	Criteria A: historical significance Criteria B: rarity Criteria C: research potential Criteria D: representativeness Criteria G: social significance

Theme	Name	Address	Description	Relevant criteria
Community Life – community organisations	Former Baptist Church	8-12 Woodlands Avenue, Kew East.	One of six churches originally established in Kew East (of which only three remain active). While now used as a child-care business the basic structure of the church remains. It is of an unusual decorative design, being made of clinker-brick with modest turrets, but with a plain interior.	Criteria E: aesthetic significance Criteria G: social significance
	Convent (Holy Spirit Sisters)	51 Strathalbyn Street, Kew East	One of the very few convents in the municipality and the only one in Kew East. Built in the 1940s, it is little changed. It features a chapel with stained glass windows. The sisters were long associated with the St. Annes School in nearby Beresford Avenue.	Criteria A: historical significance Criteria B: rarity Criteria E: aesthetic significance Criteria H: associative significance
Cultural Life – film	Dr Tate's theatrette	37 Harp Road, Kew (on the boundary of Kew East)	In the backyard of a large pre-war (1930s?) home on a generous block is a large brick building. This was purpose-designed and built by a Doctor F. Tate as a theatrette. It dates from the time of the house. Dr Tate was apparently a keen amateur cinematographer and used the theatrette to show his and other films. The theatrette is relatively large and was a popular local venue.	Criteria A: historical significance Criteria B: rarity Criteria C: research potential Criteria F: technical significance