

Statement of Significance: 335 Alma Road, Caulfield North

Date of Statement: August 2020

Address: 335 Alma Road, Caulfield North	Name: -
Place Type: Residential building (private)	Grading: Significant
PS ref no: HO216	Constructed: 1968



Photographs by Built Heritage Pty Ltd, October 2019

What is significant?

The house at 335 Alma Road, Caulfield North, is a two-storey flat-roofed beige brick house in the post-WW2 modernist style, with white marble cladding at the upper level, mosaic tiled columns and stone-clad dwarf walls. Erected in 1968 for a Polish-born clothing manufacturer and his wife, it was designed by Czech-born Robert Rosh.

The significant fabric is defined as the entire exterior of the house as well as the contemporaneous brick boundary wall, letterbox and stone-clad dwarf walls to the front garden.

How is it significant?

The house satisfies the following criteria for inclusion on the heritage overlay schedule to the City of Glen Eira planning scheme:

- Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics

Why is it significant?

The house is aesthetically significant as a particularly unusual example of modernist residential architecture of the 1960s. The work of a Czech-born émigré designer who, while professionally qualified, did not become registered as an architect in Victoria, the house exhibits an idiosyncratic strain of modernism where the trademark rectilinear massing, balanced façade and generous fenestration is relieved by decorative embellishments that

include mosaic tiled columns, concrete breeze block screen, stone-clad dwarf walls and, most strikingly of all, white marble cladding to the upper level of the street façade. Occupied by the original residents for nearly fifty years, this virtually unaltered house remains an eye-catching element in the streetscape (*Criterion E*)

Primary sources

Heritage Citation PW01, *City of Glen Eira Post-war & Hidden Gems Heritage Review 2020, Stage 2: Citations*, prepared by Built Heritage Pty Ltd.