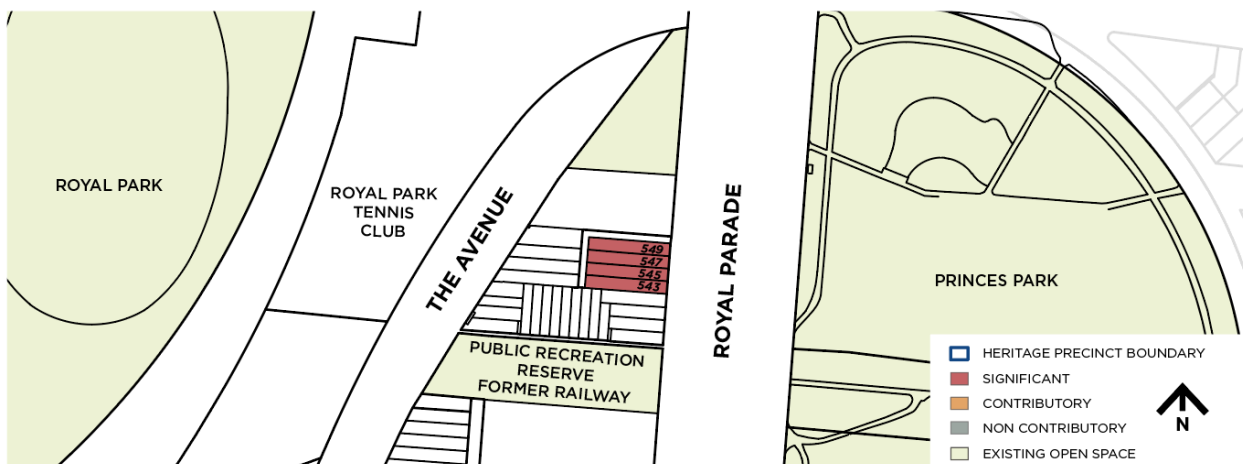
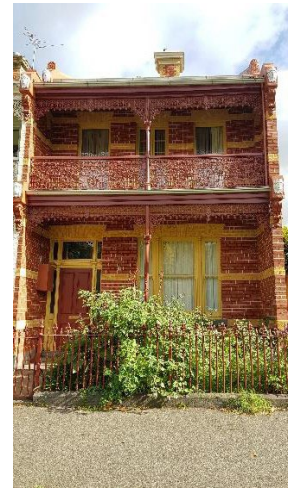


Clarence Terrace, 543, 545, 547 and 549 Royal Parade, Parkville Statement of Significance (GML Heritage, September 2025)

Heritage Place:	Clarence Terrace, 543, 545, 547 and 549 Royal Parade, Parkville	PS ref no:	HO1452
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What is significant?

Clarence Terrace at 543–549 Royal Parade, Parkville, built in 1892, is significant.

Elements that contribute to the significance of the place include the:

- building's original built form; and
- building's high level of integrity to its original design; and
- original roof form; and
- painted façades; and
- original pattern and size of the fenestration along the primary eastern elevation; and
- Italianate mouldings and detailing, including corbels, brackets, the sculptural faces, and the vermiculated detailing; and
- Italianate chimneys; and

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- cast-iron balustrades and lacework to the verandahs and balconies; and
- palisade fence and front garden plan.

How is it significant?

Clarence Terrace at 543–549 Royal Parade, Parkville, is of local historical, representative, and aesthetic significance to the City of Melbourne.

Why is it significant?

Clarence Terrace is of historic significance for the evidence it provides for the middle-class suburban development of Parkville in the late Victorian period. It forms one of a number of terraces introduced to the Parkville area from the 1870s, and forms part of a group of similar terraces built along Royal Parade. Historically, the property also provides evidence of the trend of building societies that operated in Melbourne throughout this period, providing a practical way for people to buy and build homes. Further, constructed in the early 1890s, it demonstrates the move from the grandeur of the Boom period terrace constructions towards more restrained depression-era developments. (Criterion A)

Clarence Terrace is representative of the evolution of Parkville as an affluent middle-class area, moving from grand single homes to elegant accommodation for professionals and their families, prior to the introduction of higher-density housing in the twentieth century. As part of a group with the other Victorian Italianate terraces throughout the suburb, it is representative of a period of rapid development that introduced new built form and accommodated an influx of new residents. In its immediate context on Royal Parade, it is communicative of the development of this popular thoroughfare, forming one of several terrace properties introduced within a 25-year period. Constructed towards the end of the Boom period, Clarence Terrace is further representative of the enduring popularity of the Victorian Italianate style, demonstrating a common form and ornamentation seen throughout the area. However, it is a more modest example of the type in the Parkville context, and both its architectural design and material finishes suggest the influence of economy in the design, such as the lack of a parapet, and the use of painted brick rather than render. (Criterion D)

Aesthetically, Clarence Terrace is a good example of the Victorian Italianate terrace, demonstrating a high degree of external integrity and intactness, and retaining a good degree of original fabric. Although grander than typical working-class terraces seen in other suburbs, it is consistent with more modest examples of the typology within the Parkville locality. It conforms to the typical two-storey masonry construction and its design, which incorporates a shallow garden enclosed by a palisade fence, is seen in similar examples throughout the area. It has significance for its fine detailing, characteristic of the Italianate style, including the substantial chimneys with Italianate caps, and the intricate mouldings on the brackets and corbels. It also includes decorative details such as sculptural reliefs of faces, a motif seen elsewhere on Royal Parade. Clarence Terrace has particular aesthetic significance in Parkville as a later Victorian interpretation of the Italianate style, incorporating details that were uncommon to earlier versions of the style. The visibility of the roof form, emphasised by the row of decorative brackets, was a detail more common in later developments, showing the evolution of the style throughout the period. Within its immediate context, it contributes greatly to the character of Royal Parade, and through its physical integrity, and the retention of its original lots, provides an understanding of the historical character and development of the area. (Criterion E)

Primary source

Parkville Heritage Review (GML Heritage, October 2023)