

Workers' Residences, 1-3 Cawkwell Street – Statement of Significance, June 2021

Heritage place: Houses, 1-3 Cawkwell Street, Malvern

PS ref no.: H0301



Figures 1 & 2. 1 & 3 Cawkwell Street, Malvern (July 2020)

What is significant?

The Workers' Residences at 1-3 Cawkwell Street, Malvern built in 1882-83.

Elements that contribute to the significance of the place include (but are not limited to):

- The original external form, materials and detailing of the two residences
- The high level of integrity to their original design

- Gable-roofed forms, and chimneys
- Symmetry across principal (east) elevations, including chimneys
- Polychrome face brick to 1 Cawkwell and Hawthorn face brick to 3 Cawkwell
- Mosaic encaustic tiled verandah floors, presumably displaying tiles produced at H A Cawkwell's Australian Mosaic Tile Works
- Potential early outbuilding at rear of 1 Cawkwell.

Later alterations and additions are not significant. This includes the later verandah roof, brick balustrade with rendered coping and vertical strapping to gable ends at 1 Cawkwell, the later hipped verandah roof at 3 Cawkwell, and the glazed link between the two dwellings.

How is it significant?

The Workers' Residences at 1-3 Cawkwell Street, Malvern are of local historical and representative (architectural) significance to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

The Workers' Residences at 1-3 Cawkwell Street, Malvern are of historical significance for their association with Cawkwell's Australian Mosaic Tile Works. Built to accommodate workers in the 1880s by the factory's founder, Henry Cawkwell, they are the only remaining structures associated with this factory which supplied mosaic encaustic tiles for many buildings in Victoria, particularly in the boom years of the 1880s, including many prominent buildings such as Parliament House and Maryborough Railway Station. Examples of the tiles appear to remain on the verandah floors of both cottages (Criterion A).

The Workers' Residences at 1-3 Cawkwell Street, Malvern are largely intact representative examples of Victorian workers' cottages from the early 1880s. The houses strongly reflect the simple cottage design popular in the latter half of the nineteenth century in Malvern and across Melbourne more broadly. The symmetrical front façades, with central door and flanking rectangular windows, simple gable roofs and plain chimneys, are typical of the style (Criterion D).

Primary source:

Malvern Heritage Review, GJM Heritage (June 2021)

N Lewis & Associates, *City of Malvern Heritage Study*, 1992