

# Former Maisonettes, 9 Embling Road, Malvern – Statement of Significance, June 2021

**Heritage place:** Former Maisonettes, 9 Embling Road, Malvern

**PS ref no.:** HO676



*Figure 1. 9 Embling Road, Malvern (December 2020)*

## ***What is significant?***

The Former Maisonettes at 9 Embling Road, Malvern, built in 1936.

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

- The original external form, materials and detailing of the building
- The building's high level of integrity to its original design
- Asymmetrical massing
- Main hipped roof form with prominent projecting flush gable ends
- Rendered masonry walls with contrasting dark, decorative face brick highlights to elements including window heads, upper section of gable ends, and chimney caps
- Unglazed terracotta tiles to roofs
- Two-storey entry portico with balcony above
- Simple, tall chimneys with brick capping
- Garden setting, including formal entry arrangement.

Later alterations and additions, including internal changes to convert the building to a single residence, are not significant.

***How is it significant?***

---

The Former Maisonettes at 9 Embling Road, Malvern are of local historical, representative (architectural) and aesthetic significance to the City of Stonnington.

***Why is it significant?***

---

The Former Maisonettes at 9 Embling Road are illustrative of the suburban development of Malvern in the interwar period when a number of residential flats/maisonettes were constructed across the suburb. This type of development was largely a result of increased labour and materials costs following World War I. The impetus for the efficient use of labour and materials led to an increased interest in flat/maisonette development, where shared services and land were considered an attractive prospect for investors. The Former Maisonettes at 9 Embling Road clearly illustrate this important phase of development of Malvern and the City of Stonnington more broadly (Criterion A).

The Former Maisonettes at 9 Embling Road are a fine and highly intact representative example of an interwar residential maisonette development in the City of Stonnington. The development displays typical features of this building type from this period in Malvern and across Stonnington more broadly, including a substantial two-storey form set on a large site, communal entrance and stairs, tile-clad hipped roofs, and a garden setting. It is notable as a well-resolved example of a residential maisonette development designed to appear as a single residence, which was a particularly desirable characteristic of this building type in the interwar period (Criterion D).

The Former Maisonettes at 9 Embling Road are a well-considered and carefully detailed example of a residential maisonette development designed in the Interwar Old English style by noted architects Oakley and Parkes. The design, with projecting gables and intersecting hipped roof bay, together with the use of distinctive architectural elements, including contrasting brickwork to openings and gable ends, terracotta roof tiles, faceted entrance bay with balcony above and prominent chimneys, set within a garden setting presents a picturesque composition of this architectural style (Criterion E).

**Primary sources:**

---

Malvern Heritage Review, GJM Heritage (June 2021)