

Register of Significant Twentieth Century Architecture

RSTCA No: R046

Name of Place: Arnold Grove

Other/Former Names:

Address/Location: 32 Federal Highway GUNGAHLIN
Block 322 Section of Gungahlin

Listing Status:	Registered	Other Heritage Listings:	
Date of Listing:	1984	Level of Significance:	Local
Citation Revision No:	2	Category:	Residential
Citation Revision Date:	November 1988	Style:	Mediterranean

Date of Design:	1957	Designer:	Professor Leslie Wilkinson
Construction Period:	1958	Client/Owner/Lessee:	Dr & Mrs CL Statham
Date of Additions:		Builder:	Mr Tillyard

Statement of Significance

Designed by the first Australian Professor of Architecture Professor Leslie Wilkinson, and the only example of his architecture in Canberra. Wilkinson is considered to have greatly influenced Australia's 20th century architecture. The house, although modest, is designed for aspect, sited with living areas facing north-west overlooking a garden court with pergola. The effects of sun and wind are controlled by the pergola. The outlook from the house is enhanced by landscaping. The house is an example of the colonial revival style, and exemplifies the architect's philosophy of "aspect not prospect".

Description

The house is a modest U-shaped plan surrounding a garden court. The central court has a concrete pipe colonnaded pergola to the west and south. Constructed of painted concrete block walls the house has a corrugated asbestos cement gabled roof and small-paned double hung windows. The living room has a ceiling with exposed beams and a carved stone fireplace. The bedrooms form one wing of the house, and the master bedroom has a moulded wood mantelpiece and externally shuttered windows. The house is sited on a large block, surrounded by trees.

Condition and Integrity

Excellent. Minor alterations. Walls have been removed in the bedroom wing. The kitchen has also been enlarged encompassing the original dining room. To the east is a new in-ground pool, and to the west a walled drying area. Door from Bathroom to Pool.

Background/History

Analysis against the Criteria specified in Schedule 2 of the Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991

(i) a place which demonstrates a high degree of technical and/or creative achievement, by showing qualities of innovation or departure or representing a new achievement of its time

(ii) a place which exhibits outstanding design or aesthetic qualities valued by the community or a cultural group

(iii) a place which demonstrates a distinctive way of life, taste, tradition, religion, land use, custom, process, design or function which is no longer practised, is in danger or being lost, or is of exceptional interest

(iv) a place which is highly valued by the community or a cultural group for reasons of strong or special religious, spiritual, cultural, educational or social associations

(v) a place which is the only known or only comparatively intact example of its type

(vi) a place which is a notable example of a class of natural or cultural places or landscapes and which demonstrates the principal characteristics of that class

(vii) a place which has strong or special associations with person, group, event, development or cultural phase which played a significant part in local or national history

(xi) a place which demonstrates a likelihood of providing information which will contribute significantly to a wider understanding of natural or cultural history, by virtue of its use as a research site, teaching site, type locality or benchmark site

References

Other Information Sources