

## BUDA



BUDA SOHE 2008



1 buda castlemaine entrance



buda castlemaine aviary



buda castlemaine gardens

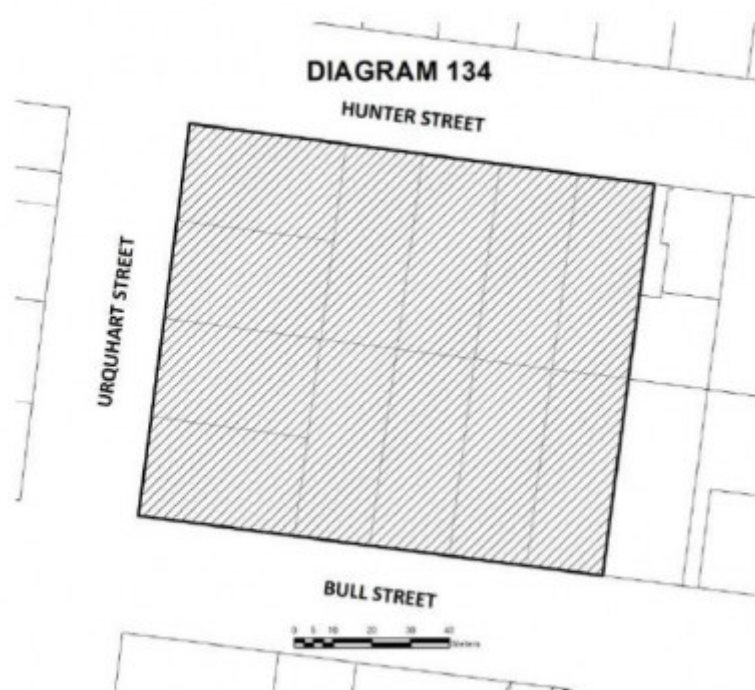


Diagram 134.JPG

## Location

42-48 HUNTER STREET CASTLEMAINE, MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

## **Municipality**

MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

## **Level of significance**

Registered

## **Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number**

H0134

## **Heritage Overlay Numbers**

HO665

## **VHR Registration**

October 9, 1974

## **Amendment to Registration**

October 11, 2018

## **Heritage Listing**

Victorian Heritage Register

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## **Statement of Significance**

Last updated on - May 13, 1999

What is significant?

Buda is a single storey 1863 Italianate villa with grand 1890s classical baroque front entrance and octagonal additions, complemented by three acres of mature dry climate garden. The garden is designed in a series of picturesque compartments, some containing oriental inspired garden structures such as the bird aviary, pergola walk and tennis pavilion. The complex is located in the heart of Castlemaine, in the Central Goldfields of Victoria. The property is the artistic creation of Ernest Leviny (1818-1905), a Hungarian emigre, silversmith and jeweller, trained in Vienna and Paris, noted for his contribution to the development of a unique Australian artistic style, combining indigenous Australian motifs with classical allegories, which won him both local and European acclaim. In 1863, he purchased Delhi Villa (circa 1861) from Reverend James Smith, a Baptist missionary returned from India. Initially, planning to develop Kaweka estate nearby, Leviny turned his attention to Delhi Villa, later in life, renaming it Buda, developing the family home into a large estate for his wife and eight children. On the death of their father in 1905, the Leviny sisters, re-decorated Buda house and garden in the style of the emerging Australian Arts and Craft Movement. Their collective craftworks, furniture and paintings of a number of important Australian women artists of the time, including examples of Margaret Preston and Norbertine Bresslern-Roths work, together with the complete contents of the house were bequeathed to the Castlemaine Art Gallery and Historical Museum at the request of Hilda, the last remaining sibling, on her death in 1981.

How is it significant?

Buda House and Garden are of historical, aesthetic, social and architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

Buda House, contents and garden is of exceptional aesthetic significance, displaying the creative and artistic genius of Ernest Leviny and his daughters. The combined works are strongly influenced by the hot dry climate of the locality, showing early development of an indigenous character to an Australian Settler aesthetic style, created by the buoyant success and aspirations of the European gold seekers in the Victorian Goldfields. It was modified later by the Leviny daughters, whose style illustrates a feminine decorative art form associated with the emergence of early 20th century Australian Arts and Crafts Movement, a precursor to Modernism.

Buda House and Garden are of historical and social importance for its association over 120 years with the notable Hungarian born silversmith and jeweller, Ernest Leviny, and his children. The design of the place reflects the cosmopolitan character of Castlemaine, the site of the richest alluvial goldfields in Central Victoria.

Buda House, inclusive of its garden design, plants, outdoor structures, interiors and contents, is architecturally significant for its authenticity and rarity as a complete family estate, an intact record from the 1850s-60s Victorian Central Goldfields, the focus of one of the great 19th century gold rushes of the world.

[Online Data Upgrade Project 2001]

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

### Specific Exemptions:

General Conditions: 1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object. General Conditions: 2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible. Note: All archaeological places have the potential to contain significant sub-surface artefacts and other remains. In most cases it will be necessary to obtain approval from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria before the undertaking any works that have a significant sub-surface component. General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: A Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan provides

guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan. General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions. General Conditions: 5. Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable. Minor Works : Note: Any Minor Works that in the opinion of the Executive Director will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place may be exempt from the permit requirements of the Heritage Act. A person proposing to undertake minor works must submit a proposal to the Executive Director. If the Executive Director is satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage values of the site, the applicant may be exempted from the requirement to obtain a heritage permit. If an applicant is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that the permits co-ordinator be contacted.

Construction dates        1857,  
Heritage Act Categories   Registered place,  
Hermes Number            274  
Property Number

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## History

### List of Sources

Australian Heritage Commission, *National Estate Register*, Database No. 004181, File No. 2/06/092/0002. Registered (21/03/1978) Report produced 18/6/2001.

Australian Heritage Commission, *National Estate Register*, Database No. 017259, File No. 2/06/092/0002. Registered (14/05/1991) Report produced 18/6/2001.

Cuffley, Peter, '*Buda Garden*', booklet funded by the Victorian Branch of the Australian Garden History Society; and included in *Australian Garden History Journal*, Vol 4 1984 and in *The Historic Gardens of Victoria*, Peter Watts. Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1983.

Heritage Council of Victoria, *Heritage Register*, No. H134, File No. 603553.

National Trust of Australia (Victoria), *National Trust Register*, No.B2489 File no

Nigel Lewis & Ass., 'BUDA, Conservation Analysis and Policies' for the Historic Buildings Council, 1988

The Committee of Management of Buda Historic Home and Garden Inc., *The Levinys of Buda*, Arts Victoria, 1992.

### SOURCE: REGISTER OF NATIONAL ESTATE CITATION ER OF THE

'BUDA', 76 URQUHART STREET,  
CASTLEMAINE, HAS BEEN BUILT IN VARIOUS STAGES. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE FIRST  
SECTION WAS CONSTRUCTED FOR COL. J. SMITH IN 1857, WITH ADDITIONS IN 1880 AND  
1890. SYMMETRICALLY PLANNED, THE SINGLE STORIED HOUSE HAS TWO PROJECTING BAY  
WINDOWED WINGS ABOUT THE CENTRAL SECTION WHICH CONTAINS THE ELABORATE PORCH  
WITH BROKEN PEDIMENT. THE ELABORATE STUCCO MOULDINGS AND CLERESTOREY ARE  
OTHER FEATURES. BUDA, IS A PARTICULARLY DISTINCTIVE HOUSE ARCHITECTURALLY,  
HAS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS WITH SILVERSMITH ERNEST LEVINY AND FORMS PART OF  
THE IMPORTANT HISTORIC TOWNSCAPE OF CASTLEMAINE. VISUALLY, THE HOUSE IS NOW  
VERY MUCH OF THE BOOM STYLE PERIOD AND IS DISTINGUISHED BY ITS STUCCO WORK,  
PARTICULARLY TO THE CENTRAL SECTION. HOWEVER, THE EARLIER SECTIONS ARE

APPARENT BEHIND, THE CLERESTOREY AND PLAN FORM ILLUSTRATING THIS REFACING. BUDA WAS ACQUIRED BY THE MUNICIPALITY OF CASTLEMAINE IN THE EARLY 1970S AND IS NOW PART OF THE CASTLEMAINE ART GALLERY AND HISTORICAL MUSEUM. OF STATE SIGNIFICANCE.

## Plaque Citation

Buda is registered by Heritage Council Victoria

This villa, built c.1862, was bought by Hungarian-born silversmith Ernest Leviny, whose family occupied it for 118 years. It was added to in 1890 and renamed Buda.

## Extent of Registration

### NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the **Heritage Act 2017**, I give notice under section 53 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by modifying a place in the Heritage Register:

Number: H0134

Category: Registered Place

Place: Buda

Location: 42-48 Hunter Street, Castlemaine

Municipality: Mount Alexander Shire

All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 134 encompassing all of Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 on Title Plan 844283; Lot 5 on Title Plan 869740; Lot 6 on TP844263; Lot 7 on TP844268; Lot 8 on Title Plan 844277; Lot 20 on TP844275; Lot 19 on TP844228; Lot 18 on TP844271; Lot 17 on TP844280 in the Parish of Castlemaine.

Dated: 11 October 2018

STEVEN AVERY

Executive Director

[Victoria Government Gazette G 41 11 October 2018 2163]

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*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*