

**Glenunga Flats, 2 Horsburgh Grove**  
Architects: Romberg & Shaw

This flat block was built in 1941 for C Stratman of Talbot Crescent, Malvern, to the design of architects Romberg & Shaw. The firm's principal, Frederick Romberg, is recognised as bringing European Modernist architecture to Victoria, in particular its application to flat construction which was very topical in periodicals published during the war period.

Contemporary with Romberg's Keam Street house in Ivanhoe, Glenunga also departs from the International Modern Movement towards the romantic strain of German Expressionism based on, in part, rustic village housing. Exposed eaves rafters, a rough stone chimney and simple skillion roof belied the modern smartness of the earlier Stanhill and Newburn flat designs, in Queens Road South Melbourne. (1) The design of Glenunga broke new grounds in the manner that compact flat accommodation was arranged.

Refer to Appendix One for biographical notes on architect.

Glenunga Flats are of state significance as an outstanding small flat development by renowned Modernist Frederick Romberg who was responsible for many important flat projects, including Stanhill. Glenunga is distinguished by the simple plan and building form (arranged around a garden court) with prismatic windows providing interest. The contrasting materials, rough hewn stone and smooth planes of render, and the porthole windows are all hallmarks of Romberg's designs and his principal design architect, Mary Turner Shaw.

1 Based on citation prepared by Graeme Butler.

