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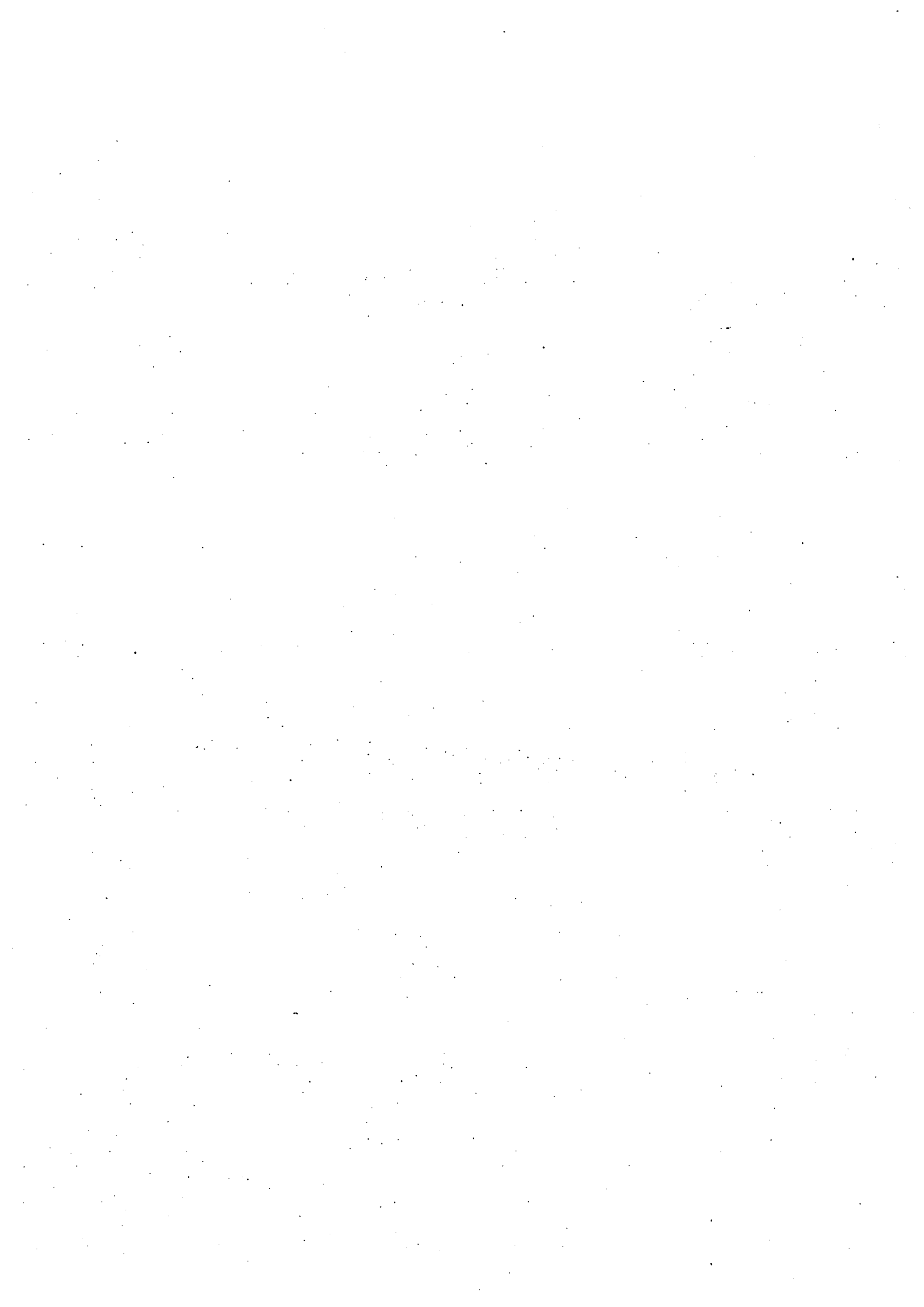
Volume 2 of 4

Conservation Review

City of Prahran

Volume 2: Individual buildings (A1)

December 1993



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Introduction

Content of this report

This volume includes the review of A1 graded buildings outside existing or proposed Urban Conservation Areas contained in Amendment L24, except for those on the Historic Buildings Register, or those affected by the Punt Road widening.

For each A1 building there is a brief history and description, a concise statement of significance, analysis and recommendations, and a list of sources to consult for further information.

A summary of the study methods, recommendations and a full bibliography may be found in Volume 1.

Supporting documentary material is held in City of Prahran Council files. This includes rate book searches, Registrar-General's Office and Titles Office searches, Melbourne Water (former MMBW) House Service Covers, extracts from journal articles, auction and subdivision plans, and copies of material held by the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), the Historic Buildings Council and Department of Planning & Development.

Individual Buildings (A1)

83 Caroline Street, South Yarra



History and Description

The early history of this site is associated with the purchase of Crown Allotment 1 (27 acres stretching from the Yarra River to Toorak Road) in the 1840s by Richard H. Browne, land speculator. His property was bounded on the east by Punt Road. Here in 1843 a residence, Yarra Bank, was built north of Domain Road. It was later occupied by the property's second owner, Major Alexander Davidson, until his death, and then by his daughter, Caroline, and her husband, Captain William Acland Anderson, until 1870. This historic residence no longer exists.¹

In 1853, Davidson subdivided land in Allotment 1, south of Domain Road and west of Caroline Street, named after his daughter. Lot 42 (the site of 83 Caroline Street) was sold in 1854 to Henry Jennings for 200 pounds, the price obtained for most of the lots in this subdivisional sale.² A house constructed on this site may date from as early as 1855 when a small structure is indicated on James Kearney's map. A five-

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1. Betty Malone. The North West Corner.
 2. RGO Search 320.

roomed wooden cottage in Caroline Street owned by Jennings was rated first in 1857.³

Jennings did not live in his Caroline Street cottage. He let it and from 1856 had raised considerable sums of money on the property by taking out a series of mortgages. This was a common method of raising finance during the Victorian age. It is not known whether any of this money was spent on Caroline Street, or on other projects. In 1856 Jennings mortgaged the property for 1,000 pounds and in 1859 for 600 pounds. His second mortgage was with the Universal Permanent Building and Investment Society run by the influential financier, Ambrose Kyte, and others. Both mortgages were discharged by 1862.⁴

The earliest part of the present house is believed to be the rear section, a double gable timber structure with a rear skillion section. The skillion is of interest for the early fascia detail, side porch and barrel-vaulted covered way to the rear masonry kitchen.

In the early 1870s, brick additions were recorded when the house's description changed to six rooms, brick and wood, with a valuation that more than doubled from 32 pounds in 1860 to 80 pounds.⁵ These additions were made for a new owner, George Walker, grocer, who purchased the property in 1870 for 600 pounds. He may have funded these additions from mortgages taken out with the South Eastern Permanent Building Society and the Universal Permanent Building and Investment Society - the body also used by Jennings. Walker borrowed more money in 1875.⁶

The Italianate front wing with polychromatic brick is believed to date from this time. It features a symmetrical facade with two octagonal bays projecting from the main slate roof. The convex verandah, which was probably added later, follows the form of the facade and is enclosed at each end with a rendered fire wall with decorative frieze. Other decorative details include the cast iron finials on the roof, the polychrome chimneys and pendant brackets in the eaves. The rear Dutch colonial/Jacobean kitchen with its stucco facade most probably also dates from this era. The designing architect is unknown.⁷

Later 19th century owners were Maria, wife of George Catanach, jeweller, in 1879⁸, and Thomas Mitchell, draper, in 1886.⁹

By 1895 MMBW drainage plans show the house still under the Mitchell ownership. The residence was set further back on the site than its present position and had a straight facade. This would appear to suggest that the polychrome brick section was added after 1895. The map also shows an elaborate garden setting with a fernery along the west side of the house. An octagonal fernery building is shown in a large garden area at the rear. The covered way to the kitchen building is indicated.¹⁰ A later, 1901 MMBW drainage plan, when Mitchell was owner/occupier still, indicated extensions to outbuildings at the rear on the west side. Earlier buildings in this area

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3. Prahran Rate Book 1857 No. 60.
 4. RGO Search 320.
 5. Prahran Rate Book 1874 No. 74.
 6. RGO Search 13330.
 7. Australian Architectural Index searched.
 8. RGO Search 13330.
 9. Prahran Rate Book 1886-87, No. 87.
 10. MMBW Detail Plan No. 948.

of the property had been demolished by 1919 and the front verandah shown in earlier plans had been removed.¹¹

The house has a garage attached to its western side which abuts the neighbouring two storey residence. Probably built in the 1920s, the garage with its ogee roof form and polychrome fire walls, is an innovative design which compliments the form of the residence.



Significance

This South Yarra residence has state significance as one of the few early 19th century homes remaining in this area. The property has high design significance as a rare and intact example of this domestic type in this area of South Yarra near the river, which was once noted for substantial homes on large allotments with generous frontages, located in elaborate garden settings. Built in stages between the 1850s and 1874, with alterations to its front section during the First World War period, this house has architectural significance demonstrating changes in domestic building techniques and styles. It has historical significance, also, for its association with a number of important local businessmen.

Sources

City of Prahran Rate Books, Toorak Ward.

Lewis, Miles, *Australian Architectural Index*, Univ. of Melb., 1990.

MMBW Detail Plan No. 948; House Cover No. 13253.

Malone, Betty. *The North-West Corner*, 1983.

11. MMBW House Cover No. 13253.

Registrar General's Office Searches 320,13330.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

10 Chastleton Avenue, Toorak



History and Description

This double-storeyed six roomed brick house was built between 1926 and 1927 for Margaret Ada Merfield.¹² A 1927 drainage plan shows the property bounded by Chasleton Avenue and Hill Street. The agents, Glover and Roberts of Hampton, listed on this plan may have been the builders.¹³ The property remained in the hands of the Merfield family. In 1951-52 it was owned and occupied by Miss Isabella H. Mabel Merfield, librarian, and her brother, Theon, and was described still as a six-roomed brick house.¹⁴ In 1928, Charles James Merfield, astronomer; Margaret Merfield, home duties; Zeus Amphion Merfield, physicist; Mabel Isabel Merfield, teacher; and Theon Numa Merfield, were living at Chasleton Avenue.¹⁵

The designing architect is thought to have been H. Desbrowe-Annear.¹⁶ A tender notice in *Building and Construction* 1926,¹⁷ for a residence in Hill Street, architect H. Desbrowe-Annear, seems likely to relate to the Merfield property. Annear, a notable inter-war domestic architect designed a number of Toorak residences for wealthy families, including 1 and 4 Heyington Place and 203 Orrong Road, Toorak.¹⁸ He is widely recognised as an early Australian Modernist.¹⁹ His background in engineering lead him to design and patent several architectural devices such as

12. Prahran Rate Book 1926-27 Toorak Ward No. 1928; 1927-28 Toorak Ward No. 2086.
13. MMBW House Cover No. 157824.
14. Prahran Rate Book 1951-52 Toorak War No. 2298.
15. Electoral Roll, Fawkner, 1928.
16. *Toorak Residential Character Study*.
17. *Building and Construction* 11 May, 1926
18. Woodfall, 1967, p.108.
19. Boyd, 1967, p.457.

window mechanisms and chimneys.²⁰ He also co-designed the Church Street Bridge in Prahran.

The symmetrical form, rendered wall surfaces and central portico demonstrate Georgian architectural ideas which appeared in some of Desbrowe-Annear's work, such as 1 and 4 Heyington Place, Toorak.²¹ The unusual window form, framed in a manner which gives the illusion of a long sash, is similar to fenestration in the porte cochere at 1 Heyington Place.²² However, several details in this building are less typical of this architect's work. The building is small, of simple symmetrical form and has unusual fenestration for Desbrowe-Annear. The pillar treatment in the portico, the applied plaster decoration in the gable end (in place of the elliptical window frequently used by Desbrowe-Annear), and the absence of the trademark features in the chimneys are not typical of this architect's work. However, this architect is known for 'a surprising range of eclecticism from the formal Doric of the Springthorpe Memorial at Boroondara Cemetery, through varying degrees of post-renaissance design, often with a slightly French overtones'.²³

Significance

This Toorak house has state architectural significance as most probably an example of a residence designed by Harold Desbrowe-Annear a highly innovative Victorian architect whose work was popular with wealthy residents in Melbourne in the 1920s, and which is exemplified in several residences in the Toorak area. The building contains research value. If the architect is confirmed as Desbrowe-Annear, this confirms the state level of architectural significance of the building which could be considered to be an unusual example of his work, of smaller scale than many of his commissions and featuring window and porte cochere treatment which differs slightly from his commonly recognised motifs of the patented sash windows and elliptical window decoration. Should further research reveal the architect to be a lesser known designer, the building has regional significance as an example of domestic architecture influenced by the Georgian Revival and Desbrowe-Annear's work. The property has local historical significance for its associations with the Merfields, an interesting district family.

Sources

Architecture in Australia, February, 1967 pp.100-108.

Boyd, R., 'The state of Australian architecture' in *Architecture in Australia*, June 1967, p. 457.

Building and Construction, 11 May, 1926, p.26.

City of Prahran Rate Books, Toorak Ward.

John Curtis Pty. Ltd., *Toorak Residential Character Study*, City of Prahran, 1991.

Desbrowe-Annear, 1922.

20. Desbrowe-Annear, 1922, pp.48-50.

21. *Architecture in Australia*, February 1967, p. 107.

22. Woodfall 1967, p.107.

23. Miles Lewis, 1986, p.21.

Electoral Role, Fawkner, 1928.

MMBW House Cover No. 157824.

Lewis, Miles, 'Miengunyah' 641 Orrong Road, prepared for City of Prahran, 1986.

Lewis, Miles, *Australian Architectural Index*, Univ. of Melb., 1990.

Peter Navaretti Index (Index of 20th century buildings). Univ. of Melb.

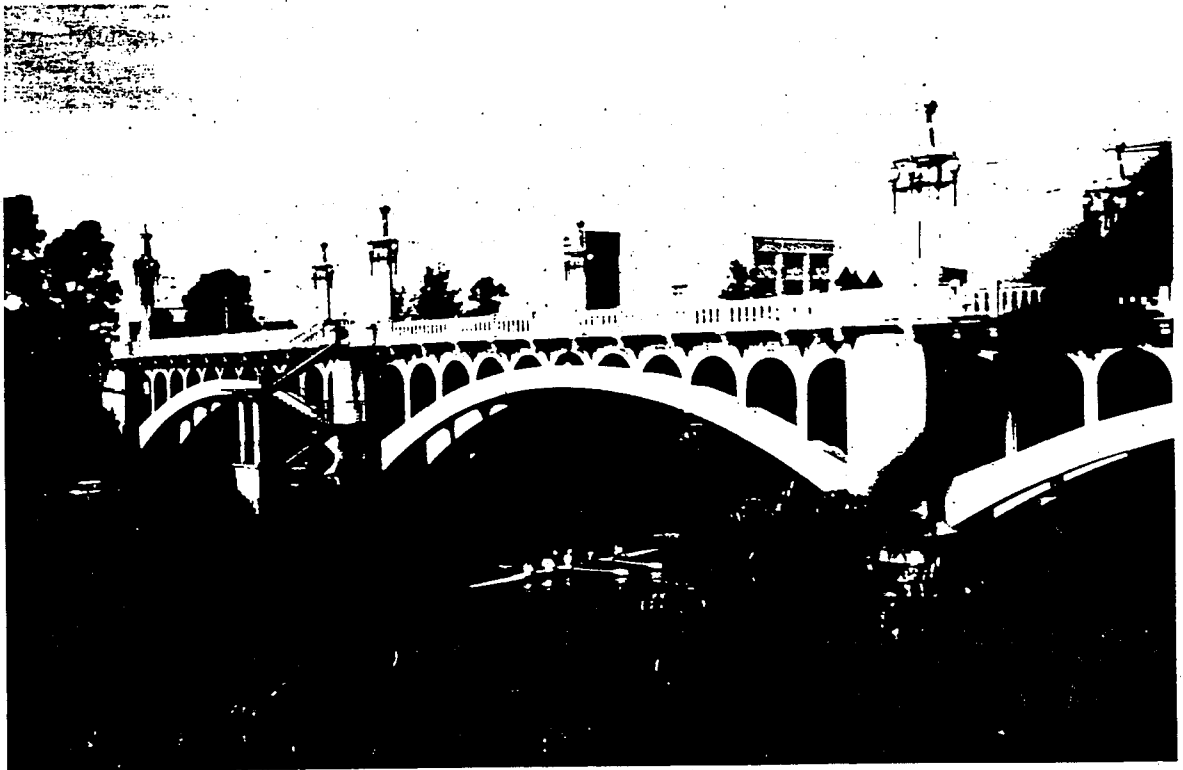
Woodfall, G., 'Harold Desbrowe-Annear. 1866-1933' in *Architecture in Australia*, Feb. 1967.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property remain ranked A1 for the following reasons:

- The building has state architectural significance as it is believed to be an example of the work of the innovative Victorian architect Harold Desbrowe-Annear, based on comparative architectural assessment and on the evidence in building notices dated around the time of construction.
- The building might demonstrate an unusual example of Annear's work, being of smaller scale than many of his domestic commissions and featuring windows treatment and ornament on the porte cochere which is not typical of his designs.

Church Street Bridge, Church Street, South Yarra



History and Description

This concrete bridge, constructed in 1924 from the designs of the architects H. Desbrowe Annear and T. R. Ashworth replaced an earlier 1857 metal bridge.²⁴ Desbrowe-Annear was a successful architect and early Modernist of the inter-war years who had a strong background in engineering.²⁵ He designed many houses for wealthy clients in Toorak and South Yarra.

Both the earlier and later bridge were designed to link Chapel Street, Prahran, with Church Street, Richmond. These developed as major commercial shopping centres. The first Church Street bridge was purchased from the British Government at the end of the Crimean War. It provided an important link but eventually required replacing because of its age and the increasing volume of traffic.²⁶

The new 1920s bridge was constructed as the result of a joint agreement between three municipal councils - Prahran, Richmond and Melbourne, the Metropolitan Tramways Board and the State Government. It was seen as opening up Prahran's gateway to the north.²⁷ At the same time, electric trams were to run across the new bridge. At the opening in July 1924, the Governor travelled on the first tram to cross the river.²⁸

24. *RVIAJ*, November, 1924. Illustration of bridge under construction and completed bridge.

25. Desbrowe-Annear, *For Every Man his Home*, Melbourne, 1922.

26. Sally Wilde, *The History of Prahran*, p.22.

27. Wilde, pp.22-23.

28. Wilde, p.22; J. B. Cooper, *The History of Prahran*, pp. 162-178.

The construction of the bridge in 1923-24 was by the Reinforced Concrete and Monier Pipe Construction Company. This company was founded by John (later Sir John) Monash who, after working as an engineer on the Outer Circle Railway and for the Melbourne Harbour Trust, began private consulting. In 1900, Monash's company introduced reinforced concrete construction to Victoria, using the Monier trellis method of reinforcement. In subsequent years, the company constructed a variety of bridges, tanks, dams, drains and buildings in Australia.²⁹

The new arched bridge was built with three spans bridged by seven open spandrel arched ribs equally spaced across the width of the bridge. These were joined at the crown, each springing from cast steel hinges to allow for expansion or movement. The carriageway was used for the electric tramway soon after construction. Ornamental pylons provide support for overhead wires, as well as decorative lighting fixtures.

Significance

This 1924 reinforced concrete bridge has state significance as an example of the important role of bridges in the development of Prahran. From the beginning, bridges contributed to the evolution of a transport system which connected Prahran with metropolitan Melbourne and nearby suburbs. The bridge provided an important link between the major shopping centres of Chapel Street, Prahran, and Church Street, Richmond. It has state-wide design significance representing an important technological achievement and demonstrating the innovative work of the Monash firm, Reinforced Concrete and Monier Pipe Construction Co. and the designing architects, H. Desbrowe Annear and T. R. Ashworth. The structure also has aesthetic value in its contribution to the Yarra environs.

Sources

City of Prahran, *Annual Reports* 1920-21, 1922-23.

Cooper, J. B., *The History of Prahran*, 1924.

Desbrowe-Annear, H. (Ed.), *For Every Man his Home*, Melbourne, 1922.

Lewis, Miles, *200 Years of Concrete in Australia*, 1988.

Reinforced Concrete and Monier Pipe Construction Company records, Melb. Univ. Archives.

Wilde, Sally, *The History of Prahran 1925-1990*, 1993.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

29. Reinforced Concrete and Monier Pipe Construction Co. P/L records, Melb. Univ. Archives.

Wooragee, 28 Clendon Road, Toorak



History and Description

This Toorak residence, constructed in 1918-19 as the home of Alfred A. Billson, brewer and politician, is believed to have been designed by his son, the architect, Edward Fielder Billson.³⁰ The house was called Wooragee after the birth place of its first owner, who lived there until his death in 1930.³¹ His architect son lived at Wooragee in 1923-24, when he was working on a house built on land he owned at 2 Selbourne Road, South Yarra.³² The Clendon Road house, begun in 1918-19,³³ was completed the following year.³⁴ It was described in that year as Wooragee, an 8 roomed brick house, NAV 160 pounds.

Alfred Arthur Billson, 1858-1930, was the son of George Billson, an English brewer who came to Victoria in 1852. George Billson settled in Beechworth, purchased the Ovens Brewery, and became MLA for Ovens in 1877. He died in 1886. His son, Alfred Arthur, was educated at Beechworth Grammar School and Scotch College. He took over his father's brewery in 1882. This brewery's Anglo-Australian Ale sold in Victoria and NSW. Later, when the teetotal movement was launched, Billson sold such drinks as Social Ginger Cup. Like his father, he entered politics. He held the seat for Ovens for 23 years. In Parliament, he supported educational reform, tourist development, the liquor trade and the establishment of an architects registration

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30. Edward Billson, architect, son of E. F. Billson, *pers. comm.*; D. L. Johnson, *Australian Architecture*, 1901-1951, illustration of A. A. Billson's house.
 31. *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Vol. 7. pp.289-290.
 32. Prahran Rate Book 1923-24 South Yarra Ward No. 1862.
 33. Prahran Rate Book 1918-19 Toorak Ward No. 1289
 34. Prahran Rate Book 1919-20 Toorak Ward No. 1325.

board. He retired from Parliament in 1927 because of ill-health and died three years later. He was survived by his wife, three sons and two daughters.³⁵

The house is a two storey bungalow of unusual design demonstrating fine finishes and incorporating a diverse combination of architectural ideas. The house is composed of a series of parallel gable roofed sections with wide overhanging eaves emphasised by the absence of brackets, the flat fascia and soffit containing circular vents. These features suggest the influence of Walter Burley-Griffin in whose office Billson worked.³⁶ A second storey built above the carport was a popular feature of houses of various styles in the inter-war years, effectively dividing the front and rear sections of the house. The wall surfaces are stucco rendered with smooth rendered dressing and thin strip courses decorating the main gable with a diamond pattern. The windows are a striking feature of the house, with decorative glazing bars also reminiscent of Burley-Griffin. Regular placement of windows overlooking the driveway on the upper storey is reminiscent of Desbrowe-Anne's approach. A small patio porch in the front of the house features curved, flat railing typical of the Modern 'steam-liner' aesthetic. Overall, the house represents an unusual and relatively early use of Modern design ideas.

Significance

Wooragee has state significance for its historical associations with Arthur A. Billson, brewer and politician who made his home at Wooragee from c1918 until his death there in 1930. Designed by Billson's son, the notable domestic architect, Edward F. Billson, the house has high architectural significance, demonstrating the early use of Modern architectural ideas in domestic design, in combination with features derived from the Bungalow style.

Sources

Australian Dictionary of Biography, Vol. 7.

Billson, Edward, architect, son of E. F. Billson, *pers. comm.*

City of Prahran Rate Books, South Yarra and Toorak Wards.

Johnson, D. L., *Australian Architecture*, 1901-1951, illustration of A. A. Billson's house.

Nigel Lewis & Richard Aitken, *City of Malvern Conservation Study*, 1992, Appendix 1.

Navaretti, Peter, *Navaretti Index*.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

35. *Australian Dictionary of Biography* Vol. 7 pp.289-90; *Age* 1 Nov. 1930 obituary.

36. Nigel Lewis & Richard Aitken, *Appendix 1*, p.32.

Braille and Talking Book Library and Braille Hall, 31-51 Commercial Road, South Yarra



History and Description

The dome-capped octagonal building facing Commercial Road was constructed in 1918-19 as a Braille Library for the Victorian Association of Braille Writers from the designs of the architects, Anketell and K. Henderson. It was financed mainly by the Edward Wilson (*Argus*) Trust.³⁷ The designing architects were notable during the inter-war years for their commercial and hospital work in Melbourne.³⁸ The decision to build the library at this time was strongly influenced by the needs of soldiers blinded by mustard gas in the 1914-18 War.³⁹

The building was described at the time as a 'dome-capped octagonal space of large dimensions, lofty and lighted from a cupola at the summit, which has a circular row of windows'.⁴⁰ There were shelves around seven sides of the library and, on the remaining side of the octagon, facing the entrance, a stage. There were no steps and matting tracks were laid to guide the blind. Handrails were placed along the walls.⁴¹ The octagonal design is thought to be based on the reading room at the State Library of Victoria, erected seven years earlier.

A majority of this early section remains intact and still accommodates part of the book collection. The high lights in the roof provide natural light in the building.

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37. Beverley Jonson, 'The Braille and Talking Book Library', Braille Library Historical Papers.
38. Miles Lewis, *Australian Architectural Index*.
39. Braille Library Historical Records.
40. *Argus*, 28 April 1919, p.4.
41. *Argus*, 28 April 1919.

Two stained glass windows to commemorate the 120th anniversary of Louis Braille's birth were placed in the west wall above the Gallery in 1929.⁴² The upper level balcony extends on all sides apart from the northern wall where two fluted pilasters mark the area where the stage was located which is now a passage into the mail room and former hall. An Art Nouveau staircase and slender timber posts support this upper storey.

Externally, the building utilises classical and Federation motifs in the unusual octagonal design. A parapet wall clearly defines the octagonal two storey section, with the hipped central 'lantern' appearing in the centre with finial. Pilasters with tapestry brick detail emphasise the classical symmetry of the design. The front entrance block containing offices and restrooms, has a Queen Anne stylistic influence and creates an unexpected juxtaposition of styles. This form is repeated in the hall off Tyrone Street. A garden, the Millicent Ritchie Memorial Garden (1939), to the west of the building is an important aspect of the landscape.⁴³

Two women played major roles in obtaining the library which, from the start was never affiliated with any other blind organisation. One was Tilly Aston (1873-1945), born in Carisbrook, Victoria, and blind from childhood. Tilly had to give up her University course commenced in 1892, because of the lack of brailled books. She was determined that other blind people would have access to such books and so helped to establish the Victorian Association of Braille Writers. Mrs. May D. Harrison, the first Secretary and Librarian, was active in the Association from the start and a marble plaque mounted above the entrance to the library is dedicated to her. At first the braille writers met in a room in her St. Kilda home. She was appointed the first Secretary at the inaugural meeting of the Association held on 27 September, 1894 in the Prahran Town Hall, chaired by Thomas Luxton, Prahran's Mayor.⁴⁴

Land in Tyrone Street was purchased at the rear of the library in 1923. Funding came from the Edward Wilson Trustees with a similar amount from the estate of Richard Gibson. Work on the Braille Hall, an extension to the library to serve as an entertainment hall, began in August 1926. The new building was officially opened on 14 May 1927. The stage in the library was removed to provide access to the Hall. However, the new building has a stage as well as a memorial fireplace with memorial stained glass windows on either side depicting Shakespeare, Milton, Scott and Dickens.⁴⁵ All these features remain intact and the stage has been converted into a braille production room. The back stage area has been converted to a kitchen and the auditorium now accommodates a large proportion of the library collection. The floor, ceiling and two sets of concertina cedar doors are all intact.

Externally, the hall is similar in style to the earlier library building but has a large rectangular plan with two hip roofed sections at the front and rear of the building. The front section has an Edwardian parapet above the entrance which has new doors. Triplets of double hung windows flank the entrance and the end walls.

42. Beverley Johnson, p.10.

43. Beverley Johnson, p.10.

44. Beverley Johnson, pp.1-6.

45. Beverley Johnson, pp.9-10.

Further land was purchased adjoining the library in 1939 and at the rear of Braille Hall in 1944. It was planned to extend the library and hall. However, some of this land was subdivided and sold in 1962, the proceeds going towards renovation of the existing buildings. There have been no further building extensions.⁴⁶

The Braille Library grew to house the largest braille collection of its kind in the Commonwealth and the third largest in the world. In 1972, with an extension of its services, it became the Braille and Talking Book Library. Later, in May 1980, the institution was established as a free Public Library providing library services not just to the blind, but to all print handicapped persons in Victoria. In addition, the Library (with a small amount of Government funding and much voluntary assistance) provides a free postal service for braille readers throughout Australia, the Pacific Region and Africa.⁴⁷



Significance

The Braille and Talking Book Library built in 1918-19 and substantially intact, with the 1927 Braille Hall at the rear, has state significance as an important public building. It has significance relating to the cultural sentiment attached to its use as a community resource centre containing a braille collection that is the largest of its kind in the Commonwealth and the third largest in the world. The library is of architectural interest as an unusual example of Edwardian architecture, combining classical and Queen Anne motifs. The hall is sympathetic in style and is of architectural interest as an intact example of a community hall built in the mid 1920s.

46. Beverley Johnson, pp.10-11.

47. Beverley Johnson, p.5; Braille Library Historical Papers.

Sources

Argus, 28 October 1918; 28 April 1919.

Braille Library Historical Records.

Johnson, Beverley, 'The Braille and Talking Book Library', a study for the B. A. Degree in Librarianship, Riverina College of Advanced Education, 1980.

Lewis, Miles, *Australian Architectural Index*, Univ. of Melb., 1990.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

Kelvin Mansions, 325 Dandenong Road, Prahran



History and Description

Kelvin Mansions was completed in 1922,⁴⁸ a two-storeyed block of four flats rated first in April 1923.⁴⁹ The property was owned by Vernon Hurt, commission agent and bookmaker, who occupied one of the five-roomed brick flats.⁵⁰ The three other tenants in 1928 were Jane Bartlett, Alexander Mullin and John Gibson, director.⁵¹ The designing architects in 1919 were Edward J. Ruck and C. L. Ruck, who also in 1919 designed Mayfair, an important residential block of flats (now demolished) in Marne Street, St. Kilda.⁵²

An additional storey was added to Hurt's property in 1932, comprising two more five-roomed flats. The additional flats with private balconies and porches have extensive views over St. Kilda to the bay. The tenants in 1932 were John Bartlett, John Mercer (manager), John L. Mended (motor salesman), William Taylor (civil servant) and Donald McMillan (gentleman). Hurt still occupied one of the original four flats.⁵³

The three-storey red brick and stucco building has a terracotta tile roof with elaborate terracotta ridge tiling and finials. Curved bay windows and square balconies (now enclosed with glazing) flank the central curved stuccoed balconies forming a

48. MMBW House Cover No.119261.

49. City of Prahran Rate Book 1922-23 Windsor Ward Nos. 13707, 13708, 13709, 13710. NAVs of 160 pounds each.

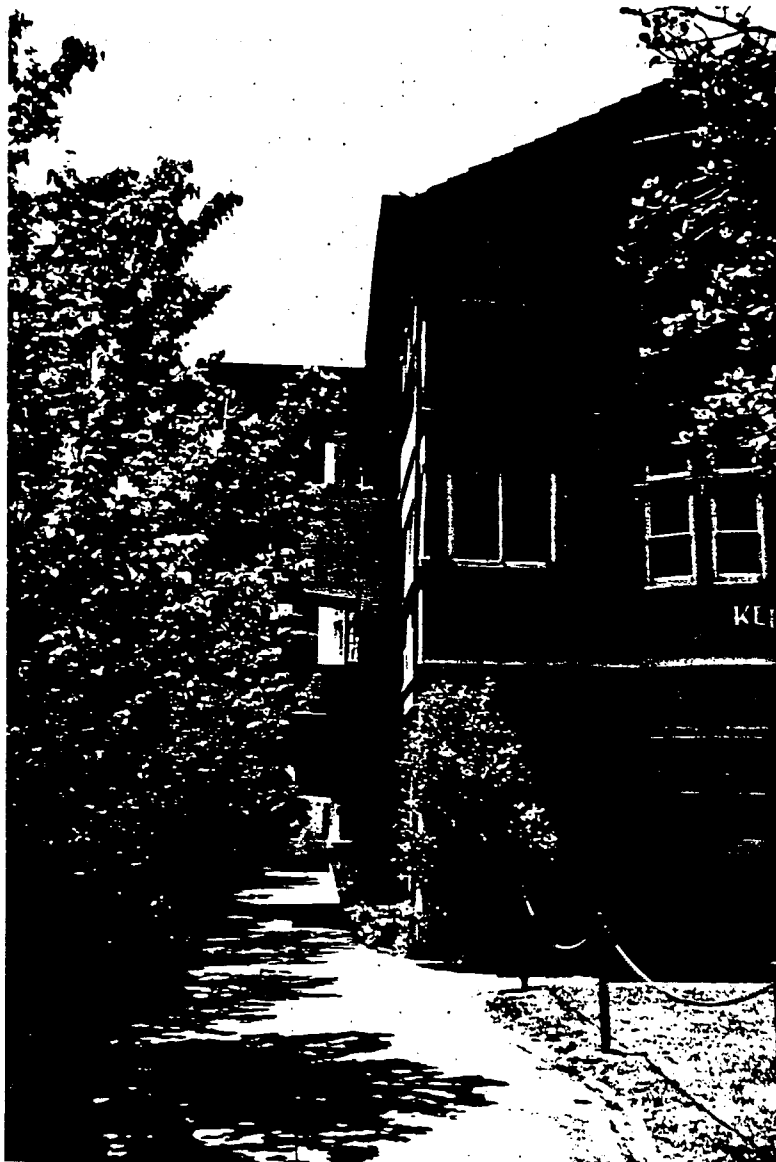
50. City of Prahran Rate Book 1922-23 Windsor Ward No 13710.

51. City of Prahran Rate Book 1928-29 Windsor Ward Nos. 14730,14731, 14732,14733.

52. Terry Sawyer, 'Residential Flats in Melbourne,' p.109.

53. City of Prahran Rate Book 1932-33 Windsor Ward Nos.14757-14762.

symmetrical front elevation with brick panels dividing the bays and forming buttresses at ground level. The upper two stories are identical while the ground floor has porthole windows in place of the balconies above. An unusual feature for the time is the side staircase with landings overhanging the driveway. The fence is an integral part of the original design with the balcony motif echoed in the brick section.



Significance

Kelvin Mansions has state significance as an example of the flat development which became a notable feature of residential development in the City of Prahran from the 1920s. Built by 1923 with additions in 1932, Kelvin Mansions has architectural significance as an example of the application of a combination of styles in this novel building type. This building has some unusual design features including the side entrances to the flats, and the fence, an integral part of the original design.

Sources

Australian Home Beautiful, 1 August 1932, p.25.

City of Prahran Rate Books, Windsor Ward.

MMBW House Cover No. 119261.

Sawyer, Terry, 'Residential Flats in Melbourne,' Research Report, Univ. of Melbourne, 1982.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

15 Darling Street, South Yarra



History and Description

This small brick cottage, one of the earliest remaining in Darling Street, was rated first in 1863 when Thomas Kerr Grieves, warehouseman, was its owner and William Georgeson, importer, the occupier. The cottage was described in that year as a new six-roomed brick and slate house in Prahran Street, the earlier name for that street.⁵⁴ George H. Ulrich, geologist, occupied the house in 1874-75.⁵⁵ By this time the house was listed as 9 Darling Street. Clement Jarrett, insurance broker, owned the house in the late 1870s. At this time it was described as a six-roomed brick and wood house. Its valuation increased during this decade to 80 pounds.⁵⁶

George Knipe, surveyor, made the Darling Street cottage his home from 1889.⁵⁷ A drainage plan drawn during Knipe's owner/occupancy shows the house with its front verandah and outbuildings at the rear.⁵⁸

Development in the area south of Domain Road was stimulated in the late 1850s and early 1860s by the arrival of the railway. Allotments in Caroline, Avoca, Murphy and Prahran, (now Darling) Streets had generous frontages.⁵⁹

This Darling Street house is a simple brick cottage with unusual timber verandah columns, valence and brackets and an elaborate and intact cast iron fence. It is a rare

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- 54. Prahran Rate Book 1863 No. 174.
 - 55. Prahran Rate Book 1875 Vol. 1 No. 191.
 - 56. Prahran Rate Book 1876 Vol. 1. No. 191.
 - 57. Prahran Rate Book 1889-90 Toorak Ward No. 247.
 - 58. MMBW House Cover No. 4823.
 - 59. Betty Malone, *The North-West Corner*, p.6.

and intact example of an early residence built in the area. The verandah features geometric timber fretwork decoration with flat rectangular columns. To the rear of the house, there is an additional brick room with verandah facing the side alley. The building, simple in form, has a hipped slate roof. Today, the face brickwork has been painted. The architect and builder remain unknown. In 1982, the house was described as a 'classic Victorian brick and slate villa containing many original features'.⁶⁰ At the rear of the property, there stands a building in the original position of the stables, which appears to contain early wall fabric.

Remaining large mid-century homes have been identified in Caroline, Avoca, and Murphy Streets. However, remaining Darling Street houses like No. 15, are smaller.⁶¹ It is believed that the garden at No. 15 Darling Street most probably dates from the late 1860s, that is, during the ownership of T. K. Grieves. The property 'retains most of the shrubs, materials and detailing of the original garden' and is considered to be of local significance.⁶²

Significance

This late 1860s substantially intact villa has state significance as one of the earliest 19th century homes remaining in this area which developed in the 1850s as a residential area after the arrival of the railway. The building has design significance as an intact example of an 1860s brick house, enlarged and improved over the years with successive building stages remaining intact, and including significant fence and former stables. It has additional architectural significance for its unusual timber verandah decoration. The garden, which is thought to date from the 1860s, is of local significance, regarded as one of the better surviving 'terrace house gardens' in the municipality.

Sources

Age, 11 Sept. 1982.

City of Prahran, Valuers records Windsor Ward.

City of Prahran Rate Books, Toorak Ward.

City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

Malone, Betty, *The North-West Corner*, 1987.

MMBW House Cover No. 4823.

Analysis and Recommendations

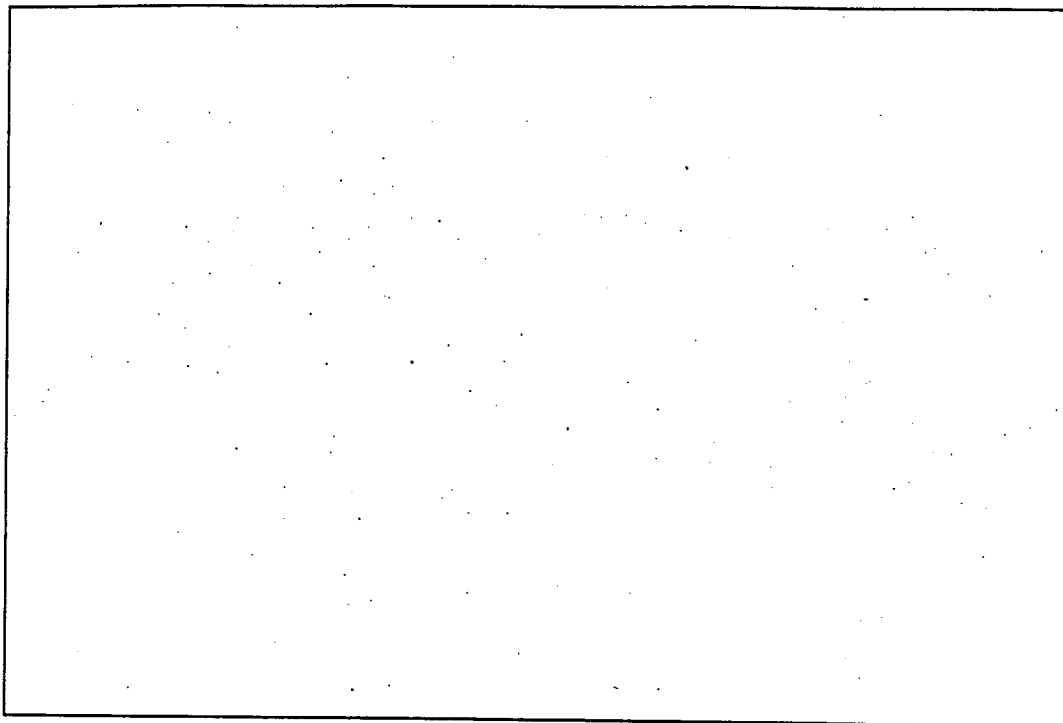
It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

60. City of Prahran Valuers records Windsor Ward Book 4T.

61. Betty Malone, *The North-West Corner*, p.7.

62. City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

Former Armagh, Denbigh Road, Armadale



[Photo not permitted by owner - Nov. 93.]

History and Description

John M. Force, surveyor, was the first owner/occupier of a 'New Villa', a seven-roomed brick house in Denbigh Street, first rated in 1899-1900.⁶³ A. A. Brown of 871 High Street, Armadale, was listed as agent on a 1902 MMBW drainage plan and may have been the designer or builder. Force's house was designed originally with both front and back verandahs and small laundry/toilet structures at the rear.⁶⁴

The polychromatic brick residence set well back on the site has typical Italianate features including contrasting red brick courses at the level of the footings, sills, lintels and below the eaves. Polychrome is also evident in the chimneys. It has a hipped slate roof with distinctive turned timber consoles under the eaves. The verandah, across the symmetrical front, contains a central gable over the front entrance and a deep cast iron frieze and brackets. Fluted cast iron columns and tiled floor are also intact, and overall these features are typical of Italianate villa architecture. Comparable examples include 15 Darling Street, South Yarra, a much earlier building in this form but not in polychrome, and 'Amaranth', 33 Coppin Street, Malvern and 83 Carolyne Street, South Yarra, both Italianate polychrome brick but with asymmetrical facades. A remaining brick garage was most probably built during the early 1920s. At this time, Force was in Canberra and the Armadale villa was

63. Prahran Rate Book 1899-1900 Windsor Ward No. 8054, NAV 44 pounds.

64. MMBW House Cover No. 32892.

occupied by William Wood, a commercial traveller.⁶⁵ By the late 1920s, John Force was owner/occupier once again.⁶⁶

The suburban garden associated with the former Armagh has been identified as an interesting example of 'late Victorian middle class horticulture' which includes a typical range of plantings and has local significance.⁶⁷

Significance

The house at Denbigh Road has regional significance for design reasons. As an example of a symmetrical villa residence with an intact early garage located in a complementary late Victorian suburban garden setting, it is representative of turn-of-the-century residential development favoured by the professional classes settling in the Armadale region. The apparent degree of intactness in this building gives it research value. It is one of the few remaining examples of residences from this period in the area and has regional architectural significance as a very intact example of this type of a polychrome Late Victorian Italianate villa. It has local historical significance for its associations with John Force, surveyor and local significance relating to the intactness of the garden, exemplifying a typical range of Victorian plantings.

Sources

City of Prahran Rate Books, Windsor Ward.

City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

City of Prahran Valuers records, Windsor Ward.

MMBW House Cover No. 32892.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this place be ranked A2 for the following reasons:

- The property has local significance for its historical associations with John Force, surveyor, and as an early residence in the Armadale area.
- The property has regional significance as an intact example of an Italianate polychrome villa with complimentary late Victorian garden.
- The property contains research value where analysis of the existing fabric which appears to be remarkably intact, may reveal information about construction practices at this time.

65. Prahran Rate Book 1923-24 Windsor Ward No. 10437. Described as 9-roomed house.

66. Prahran Rate Book 1929-30 Windsor Ward No. 11173.

67. City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

R. C. Church Seminary & Offices 21 Elgin Avenue, Armadale



History and Description

This large two-storeyed house with its attractive cast iron verandah trim, now owned by the Roman Catholic Trust Corporation, was built in 1899-1900 by the Victorian Permanent Building Society for Mary Windsor. The residence was let to Thomas Wallace, draper.⁶⁸ This building society, which was associated with the construction of a large number of properties throughout Melbourne's suburbs, was founded in 1865 by James Munro, MLA for North Melbourne and Carlton, and Premier of Victoria.⁶⁹

The house appears to be largely intact and demonstrates grand Italianate architectural detail. The broad facade addressing Elgin Street has a pair of ornate bay windows on each storey, each containing narrow, arched double hung windows. The balcony returns on both sides and is infilled on the southern side. Elegant cast iron columns are paired and bracketed with fine lacework with a few segments missing. The roof is hidden behind a continuous parapet wall, complete with balustrade and frieze. The grand residence is situated on raised foundations with most of the area lawned with occasional established plantings. Later buildings are located to the south-east of the house.

A 1902 MMBW drainage plan shows the Elgin Avenue residence at that time, on the east side of Wynnstay Avenue (the street's earlier name). The property has a long

68. Prahran Rate Book 1899-1900 Windsor Ward No. 8136. Listed as 'New House'.

69. M. Cannon, *The Land Boomers*, p. 242.

drive from stables at the rear and an entrance in Wynnstay Avenue.⁷⁰ Later, during the 1940s, the property became known as Elgin Hall Guest House. From 1958, when it was purchased by the Roman Catholic Trust Corporation, it has had other uses. At first, it was a Hungarian Youth Club Hostel and later an R. C. Church Seminary and Offices.⁷¹

Significance

This intact example of a grand Victorian mansion still located on a large allotment, has state significance for design reasons. It demonstrates the building styles popular among the wealthy in the Prahran district, and is important architecturally for its elaborate decorative treatment and external intactness. The site has local aesthetic significance for its large open space although the early garden features have been removed.

Sources

Cannon, M., *The Land Boomers*, 1986 edn.

City of Prahran Rate Books, Windsor Ward.

City of Prahran Valuers records, Windsor Ward.

MMBW Detail Plan No. 996.

National Trust File No. 4194.

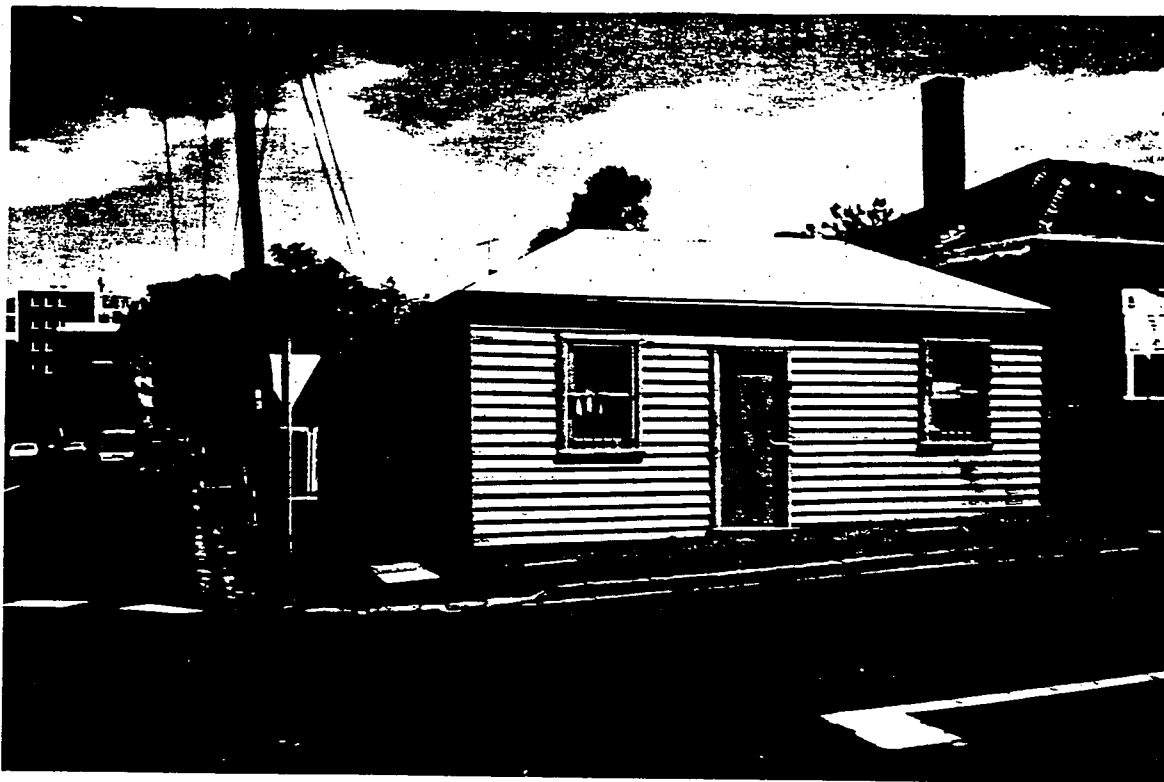
Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

70. MMBW Detail Plan No. 996.

71. City of Prahran Valuers records, Windsor Ward Book 5W.

5 George Street, Prahran



History and Description

This simple timber cottage on the corner of Andrew Street dates from 1856 when D. Nicholson was rated for a house on the site. George Street was known then as William Street.⁷² An earlier date for the house's construction, suggested in earlier research, seems unlikely. No building is shown on this corner in James Kearney's 1855 map of the area. The south-west corner of Prahran was the location of an early settlement of small houses with few larger properties.⁷³ In 1857, the building on the site of 5 George Street was described as a wooden cottage of three rooms, NAV 10 pounds.⁷⁴

The site was the southern part of Lot 56 in Crown Portion 58. The Crown Grantees, S and R Raleigh, sold Lot 56 to David Moorehead in 1854. Moorehead subdivided the allotment, selling the northern part to James Rea for 50 pounds. He sold the corner block (the site of 5 George Street) in 1857 for the larger sum of 90 pounds.⁷⁵ Thomas Wallis, whose name appears on the legal document, acted as an agent for various owners. In 1859 Rea and Nicholson's houses were both described as three-roomed timber houses with shingles.⁷⁶

During the last century, the small timber cottages in George Street (off High Street) were occupied by labourers, building tradesmen and others serving the needs of more affluent district families. In 1875 Robert Rule, labourer, occupied No. 5. His

72. Prahran Rate Book 1856 No. 254.

73. Betty Malone, *Old Windsor - The South-West Corner of Prahran*.

74. Prahran Rate Book 1857 No. 2837.

75. RGO Searches 11145, 11553.

76. Prahran Rate Book 1859 Nos. 3250 and 3251.

neighbours, also in wooden cottages, were Alfred Barns, carpenter; John Mack, carpenter; Joseph Burgess, carpenter; and Rob Cowderoy, carpenter.⁷⁷ Later, in 1881, when George Henry Hugo owned Nos. 1,3 and 5 George Street, William Smith, driver, lived in No. 5.⁷⁸

From the 1870s - 1890s, No. 5 increased in size, becoming 4-roomed in 1875,⁷⁹ and five-roomed by 1896-97.⁸⁰ This may be when the back section was extended along Andrew Street, as shown in an MMBW drainage plan of that time. The main building is depicted without front verandahs to either George or Andrew Street but with a tiny verandah at the rear.⁸¹

Today, the form of the 19th century cottage remains substantially intact, still with no verandah to either side. The house has a hipped roof. The symmetrical front faces George Street and contains a door positioned approximately centrally, flanked by double hung windows. The roof has been clad with corrugated iron. Recent City of Prahran Valuers records describe the cottage as 'built onto street line', suggesting an early date of construction, but 'with reasonable exterior condition'.⁸²

Significance

This simple substantially intact timber cottage of the 1850s has state significance for historical reasons pertaining to its early date of construction. It is of regional design significance as a rare surviving example of the small cottages typical of the Prahran of that era.

Sources

City of Prahran Rate Books, Windsor Ward.

City of Prahran Valuers Records, Windsor Ward.

Kearney, James, *Map of Melbourne and its Suburbs*, 1855.

Malone, Betty, *Old Windsor - The South-West Corner of Prahran*, 1989.

MMBW Detail Plan No. 963

Registrar General's Office Searches 11145 and 11553.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

77. Prahran Rate Book 1875 Vol. 2 Nos.4715-4720.

78. Prahran Rate Book 1881 No. 5737.

79. Prahran Rate Book 1875 Vol. 2 4717.

80. Prahran Rate Book 1896-97 Windsor Ward No..9723.

81. MMBW Detail Plan No. 963.

82. City of Prahran Valuers records. Windsor Ward Book 20W.

36 Green Street, Windsor



History and Description

Charles James was the first owner in 1877 of a pair of five-roomed brick houses in Green Street. He didn't live there but let No. 16 (now No. 36) to various tenants, including Edward Lewis in 1877,⁸³ William Powley, evangelist, in 1878,⁸⁴ and Charles Prescott, jeweller, in 1879.⁸⁵ In 1894-95, when James still owned both houses, he let No. 36 to Henry Kuschte, broker.⁸⁶

During the 1920s, this Victorian house was one of a number of properties in Green Street owned by Augustine Fallon. These included the Alaska Fur Co. Factory at 46-48 Green Street, other factory buildings occupied by the Alaska Fur Company and a manufacturer of shop fronts at 42 and 44 Green Street, as well as houses at 36, 38 and 40 Green Street.⁸⁷

The old house was described by City of Prahran Valuers in 1968 as a larger Victorian brick house in original condition with a neat exterior, and the interior not renovated. By this time the house had eight rooms.⁸⁸

The house is a highly ornamented triple fronted brick villa. A striking feature of the building is the intricate moulded fascia below the eaves which is echoed in the ornate chimney caps and the Corinthian capitals in the window architraves. The quoins are

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83. Prahran Rate Book 1877 Vol. 2 No. 4466.
 84. Prahran Rate Book 1878 Vol. 2 No. 4408.
 85. Prahran Rate Book 1879 Vol. 2 No. 4643.
 86. Prahran Rate Book 1894-95 Windsor Ward No. 9435.
 87. Prahran Rate Book 1924-25 Windsor Ward Nos. 12514-12519.
 88. City of Prahran Valuers records. Windsor Ward Book 18W.

moulded and rendered and together with the window dressing contrast with the dark brick walls. The verandah returns all the way along the facade and is supported by smooth cast iron columns with modest metal brackets meeting the cornice. Although the polychrome tiled verandah floor and slate trim is damaged, it is largely intact and complements a tiled path to the entrance gates. The fence with its cast concrete pillars probably dates from the inter-war years.



Significance

This intact Victorian house of the 1870s has state significance because of its historic importance as a residential survivor in an area of increasingly industrial character. It is an architecturally significant example due to its extraordinary degree of architectural ornamentation. Notable features are the tiled path to the entrance gates and the fence with its concrete pillars.

Sources

City of Prahran Rate Books, Windsor Ward.

City of Prahran Valuers records, Windsor Ward.

MMBW House Cover No. 18879.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

Sherren House (St. Catherine's School), 17 Heyington Place, Toorak



History and Description

Mars Buckley (1825? - 1905), prominent retailer and founder of Buckley and Nunn's which became one of Victoria's major drapery stores, owned a house on this site from 1863. It was a substantial building described in that year as a 15-roomed brick and slate dwelling with extensive outbuildings on 6.75 acres of land.⁸⁹ In February 1871 tenders were called by John Barry for 'extensive Additions to Villa at Toorak, for Mars Buckley Esq'.⁹⁰ Later, in 1881, the well-known colonial decorator, S. A. Paterson, called tenders for decorations to the interior of the residence.⁹¹

It is not known how much, if any, of the 1860s house was incorporated into the later building. However, a large jump in valuation occurred in the 1880s, when it increased from 400 pounds in 1877 to 1,200 pounds in 1884. From this date, Buckley's house was described as a 30-roomed house.⁹² It seems most likely that the residence remaining today dates substantially from the early 1880s. An 1895 MMBW drainage plan shows the property extending as far south as Toorak Road. There are many outbuildings and a large garden.⁹³ Three years later, the garden was described in these words:

89. Prahran Rate Book 1863 No. 375.

90. *Argus*, 3 Feb. 1871, p.3.

91. *Argus*, 4 Aug. 1881.

92. Prahran Rate Book 1877 Vol. 1 No. 500; 1884 Vol. 1 No. 588.

93. MMBW drainage plan No. 43.

'Passing out of Lansell - road into Heyington - place we come on the fine mansion and grounds of Beaulieu, owned by Mr. Mars Buckley. The garden is always a grand sight, and at all seasons is full of the choicest flowers. The interior is very comfortable and artistic, and the entrance-gates are extremely handsome'.⁹⁴

A later, 1904 article, described the interior decoration on which 'no item of expense had been spared to make this home one of the finest in the Southern Hemisphere'.⁹⁵ Recent restoration in the drawing room has been based on the design from this period including ornate plaster cornices in the ceiling and timber panelling in the walls. A visitor to the house in 1904 described the drawing room as 'a precursor of the Georgian Revival Style in Australia'.⁹⁶

Mars Buckley, the owner of Beaulieu, lived there until his death in 1905. Born at Mallow, County Cork, Ireland, he sailed to Victoria in 1851 with his wife, Elizabeth, one child, and goods to sell. After some success on the goldfields, he returned to Melbourne. Buckley went into partnership with Crumpton John Nunn. Their firm, Buckley and Nunn's, was described in 1900 as 'The Oldest-Established Draper Houses in Victoria and the Most Fashionable Resort for Shopping in Australia'. Buckley also helped found the Commercial Bank of Australia in 1866.⁹⁷

After Buckley's death, his widow lived at Beaulieu for several years.⁹⁸ The next owner in 1911 was Lachlan Scobie MacKinnon (1848-1925), newspaper proprietor and manager. He was associated with the *Argus* and *Sydney Morning Herald* and was knighted in 1916.⁹⁹ Major internal refurbishments were carried out for MacKinnon in 1915 by the architects Klingender and Alsop.¹⁰⁰ Vaulted ceilings in the vestibule, side passages and stairwell remain intact from this period. The staircase was also rebuilt at this time. This work destroyed most of the earlier Buckley fittings and internal finishes. It seems possible at this time Buckley's billiard room was converted into a ballroom.¹⁰¹

In 1922, Kilbride, as MacKinnon renamed the mansion, was purchased by the Misses Flora Templeton and Minnie Langley for 17,000 pounds.¹⁰² The property was then run as a girl's school, St. Catherine's, founded in Castlemaine in 1903.¹⁰³

Some minor alterations were made to the building in the 1920s, including some limited infilling on the upper level of the loggias. The architects were Clegg and Morrow of Ballarat.¹⁰⁴ A masterplan prepared in 1950 by Melbourne architects, Yuncken, Freeman Brothers, Griffiths and Simpson, showed sports fields and courts in front of the former mansion with new school buildings confined to the south west

94. *Australasian*, 30 July 1892 p. 323.

95. *Victoria's Representative Men at Home*, 1904, pp. 78-79.

96. Terry Lane and Jessie Searle; *Australians at Home*, pp.289-290 quoted in Lewis and Aitken.

97. *ADB*, Vol. 3 p.290.

98. *ADB*, Vol. 3 p.290.

99. *ADB*, Vol. 10, p.316.

100. MMBW House Cover No. 61201.

101. Nigel Lewis & Richard Aitken, 'Sherren House St. Catherine's School, 17 Heyington Place, Toorak'.

102. Prahran Rate Book 1922-23 Toorak Ward No. 1293.

103. Jane Chatham, *Across the Slate. Prahran's Schools. 1850s - 1985*, p.58.

104. Lewis & Aitken report.

corner of the site.¹⁰⁵ In 1964, Melbourne architects Mockridge Stahle and Mitchell prepared plans for infilling the remainder of the loggias. There was more extensive work in 1978 by the architects, McGlashan and Everist, which included the construction of an upper storey over the former billiard/ballroom.¹⁰⁶

However, the exterior of Sherren House is substantially intact from c1881-84. The natural cement render finish has been retained, which is unusual for a 19th century suburban mansion. External render is currently being repaired. The major alterations are the infilling of the loggias to provide increased accommodation, major extensions to the south for new service areas, and extension on the first floor over sections that were originally single storey.¹⁰⁷

Today, externally, the mansion retains its Italianate detailing, extensive two storey loggias, intact cement render finish and early granite entrance gates. The c1915 extensive internal alterations by the architects Klingender and Alsop survive partly intact. The landscaping, although severely reduced in size, 'still allows the residence to be viewed in isolation; retains the original entry drive; and permits views from the upper floor windows over the Yarra River and Gardiner's Creek Valley'.¹⁰⁸



Significance

Sherren House (formerly known as Beaulieu and Kilbride) is of state significance as one of a small number of surviving 19th century Toorak mansions. The building's exterior, which most probably dates from the early 1880s, has historical importance for its associations with the ownership of prominent retailer, Mars Buckley.

105. Lewis & Aitken report.

106. Lewis & Aitken report.

107. Lewis & Aitken report.

108. Lewis & Aitken report.

Important architectural features are the Italianate detailing, extensive two storey loggias, intact cement render finish, the front fence and early granite gates. The c1915 extensive internal alterations for L. S. MacKinnon, newspaper proprietor and manager, survive largely intact and contribute to the state level of architectural significance. They include the decorated ceiling in the vestibule, stairwell and side passages and maintain the reputation of the building as a benchmark of decorative taste among Melbourne mansions.



Sources

Argus, 3 Feb. 1871, p.3.

Argus, 4 Aug. 1881

Australasian, 30 July 1892, p.323.

Australian Dictionary of Biography, Vol. 3. p.290 (Buckley); Vol. 10, p.316 (MacKinnon).

Chatham, Jane, *Across the Slate. Prahran's Schools, 1850s-1985*.

City of Prahran Rate Books.

Terry Lane and Jessie Serle, *Australians at Home*, Melb., 1990 pp. 289-290.

Nigel Lewis & Richard Aitken, 'Sherren House, St. Catherine's School, 17 Heyington place, Toorak', 26 Nov. 1990.

MMBW Drainage Plan No. 43.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

Campbell House (St. Catherine's School), 27 Heyington Place, Toorak



History and Description

Further research into this building, including an investigation of Prahran rate records, confirms that Campbell House dates from the late 1920s. William H. Roddick, manufacturer, and his wife, Annie, were rated for the site in 1927-28.¹⁰⁹ The following year, the Roddicks' were rated for a 15-roomed brick house at 27 Heyington Place with the substantial NAV of 600 pounds. The first rates were paid on this house property on 4 April 1929, suggesting that the residence was completed by that date.¹¹⁰

As earlier research has shown,¹¹¹ the Roddicks' mansion house was designed by the architect, Eric C. Beedham. This architect, who served his articles in Tasmania before coming to Victoria, designed a number of houses, shops, factories, hotels and banks in the 1920s and 1930s, as well as some flats in the late 1920s. His most important domestic work is thought to be Byranya, the Moore house in Toorak in 1925.¹¹²

The Roddick house at 27 Heyington Place, now forming part of St. Catherine's School, is one of several properties in Heyington Place acquired over the years. The earliest, Sherren House, (previously known as Beaulieu and then Kilbride), an 1880s

109. Prahran Rate Book 1927-28 Toorak Ward No. 1547 NAV 130 pounds.

110. Prahran Rate Book 1928-29 Toorak Ward No. 1621.

111. Peter Lovell, 'Notes on the Significance of Campbell House, 27 Heyington Place, Toorak', 2 Dec. 1992.

112. *Malvern Conservation Study*.

mansion, was the first residence occupied by the school when it moved to Heyington Place in 1922.¹¹³ St. Catherine's, one of the more successful private schools opened in South Yarra and Toorak, the wealthy northern area of the City of Prahran, began in 1903 as the Castlemaine Girls College. Its founders, Ruth and Nona Langly, were daughters of the Bishop of Bendigo. They renamed the School St. Catherine's after the school they attended in Waverley, New South Wales. St. Catherine's came to Prahran in 1920 with Ruth Langly as principal and Miss Flora Templeton as co-principal. (Nona Langly had married). In 1922, because of increased numbers of students, the school purchased and moved into the former private residence at 17 Heyington Place.¹¹⁴

The house at 27 Heyington Place was still owned by the Roddicks in the early 1950s, when it was described still as a 15-roomed brick house, NAV £550.¹¹⁵ By this date St. Catherine's owned 17/21 Heyington Place, and houses at 29, 31 and 33 Heyington Place.¹¹⁶ By the 1960s, the school also owned 27 Heyington Place, now known as Campbell House.¹¹⁷

Campbell House is a large two storey residence with a rough cast stuccoed facade and Marseilles pattern tiled roof. The facade with its 'low pitched spreading roof and break front treatment is essentially Georgian Revival in origin'. The Georgian style of domestic architecture, along with the Spanish Mission and Old English styles were popular in the Toorak area in the 1920s. Distinguishing features are the 'classically derived porte cochere and Palladian window above'.¹¹⁸ In the original design, the south side wing was single storey and the north wing two storeyed. Undated drawings in the possession of St. Catherine's School show the original front elevation and original north elevation of Campbell House. These designs show classical porches either side of the symmetrical central section which appear to have been deleted from the original construction.¹¹⁹ Apart from this, most of the design detail is evident in the facade. The side and rear elevations are constructed in plain exposed brick with simple fenestration.

Alterations and additions to the building were carried out in 1964 by the architects, Mockridge, Stahle and Mitchell. These works included the construction of an additional storey to the rear of the north facade.

The southern end of the east facing facade was also substantially altered with the addition of a second storey. These additions are identifiable by the different colour of the exposed render finish which is similar to that of the north facade additions.¹²⁰ The east (main) facade alterations have created a symmetry in the facade which was not the original design intention and which, according to Peter Lovell 'while being in sympathy with the original design, have in practice altered, and to a degree falsified, the appearance of the building...'.¹²¹

113. Jane Chatham, *Across the Slate. Prahran's Schools 1850s - 1985*, pp. 58-59.

114. Chatham, p.58.

115. Prahran Rate Book 1951-52 Toorak Ward No. 2716.

116. Prahran Rate Book 1951-52 Toorak Ward Nos. 2713, 2717 - 2719.

117. City of Prahran Valuers records Toorak Ward Book 17T.

118. Lovell, p.2.

119. Reproduced in Lovell, p.3.

120. Lovell, p.2.

121. Lovell, 1992, p.2.

mansion, was the first residence occupied by the school when it moved to Heyington Place in 1922.¹¹³ St. Catherine's, one of the more successful private schools opened in South Yarra and Toorak, the wealthy northern area of the City of Prahran, began in 1903 as the Castlemaine Girls College. Its founders, Ruth and Nona Langly, were daughters of the Bishop of Bendigo. They renamed the School St. Catherine's after the school they attended in Waverley, New South Wales. St. Catherine's came to Prahran in 1920 with Ruth Langly as principal and Miss Flora Templeton as co-principal. (Nona Langly had married). In 1922, because of increased numbers of students, the school purchased and moved into the former private residence at 17 Heyington Place.¹¹⁴

The house at 27 Heyington Place was still owned by the Roddicks in the early 1950s, when it was described still as a 15-roomed brick house, NAV £550.¹¹⁵ By this date St. Catherine's owned 17/21 Heyington Place, and houses at 29, 31 and 33 Heyington Place.¹¹⁶ By the 1960s, the school also owned 27 Heyington Place, now known as Campbell House.¹¹⁷

Campbell House is a large two storey residence with a rough cast stuccoed facade and Marseilles pattern tiled roof. The facade with its 'low pitched spreading roof and break front treatment is essentially Georgian Revival in origin'. The Georgian style of domestic architecture, along with the Spanish Mission and Old English styles were popular in the Toorak area in the 1920s. Distinguishing features are the 'classically derived porte cochere and Palladian window above'.¹¹⁸ In the original design, the south side wing was single storey and the north wing two storeyed. Undated drawings in the possession of St. Catherine's School show the original front elevation and original north elevation of Campbell House. These designs show classical porches either side of the symmetrical central section which appear to have been deleted from the original construction.¹¹⁹ Apart from this, most of the design detail is evident in the facade. The side and rear elevations are constructed in plain exposed brick with simple fenestration.

Alterations and additions to the building were carried out in 1964 by the architects, Mockridge, Stahle and Mitchell. These works included the construction of an additional storey to the rear of the north facade.

The southern end of the east facing facade was also substantially altered with the addition of a second storey. These additions are identifiable by the different colour of the exposed render finish which is similar to that of the north facade additions.¹²⁰ The east (main) facade alterations have created a symmetry in the facade which was not the original design intention and which, according to Peter Lovell 'while being in sympathy with the original design, have in practice altered, and to a degree falsified, the appearance of the building...'.¹²¹

113. Jane Chatham, *Across the Slate. Prahran's Schools 1850s - 1985*, pp. 58-59.

114. Chatham, p.58.

115. Prahran Rate Book 1951-52 Toorak Ward No. 2716.

116. Prahran Rate Book 1951-52 Toorak Ward Nos. 2713, 2717 - 2719.

117. City of Prahran Valuers records Toorak Ward Book 17T.

118. Lovell, p.2.

119. Reproduced in Lovell, p.3.

120. Lovell, p.2.

121. Lovell, 1992, p.2.

has been installed in a front wall, which is rendered and contrasts with the tiled wall above the entrance. This unusual house demonstrates the use of a combination of Craftsman, English Cottage and more modern idioms, representing the diversity of architectural styles in the inter-war period.



Significance

This substantial inter-war residence has state significance for architectural reasons. It is an example of the domestic work of the distinguished Melbourne architect, Cedric Ballantyne, and is an illustration of the rich variety of building styles in inter-war domestic architecture in the City of Prahran.

Sources

City of Prahran Rate Books, Toorak Ward.

Cuffley, P., *Australian Houses of the '20s and '30s*, The Five Mile Press, Melbourne, 1989.

MMBW House Cover No.152107.

Lewis, Miles, *Australian Architectural Index*, Univ. of Melbourne, 1990.

Raworth, Bryce, 'Marcus Martin: a Survey of his Life and Work,' p.19.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

Prahran Primary School No. 2855, 45-69 High Street, Prahran



History and Description

On 16 March 1886 George P. Miles purchased the site of this school. After its purchase, the Education Department sold the existing house on the block. A brick school house was erected by the Public Works Department in 1886 costing over 5,499 pounds. It was opened on 13 February 1888 as Prahran West School. Its name was not changed to Prahran until 1925.¹³⁶

Enrolments increased so rapidly that an extension had to be made to the school in 1889. At the same time, a Head Teacher's Office (25 feet by 20 feet) was constructed. At this time the school building was used at night as the temporary premises of the Prahran Working Men's College.¹³⁷

Victoria's transport system has a link with the site of this school. The first locomotive constructed in Victoria was built at Prahran by Enoch Chambers. His foundry occupied the site now used as a playground area.¹³⁸

Many school designs of this period were derived from the Eaglehawk No. 210 design, by H. R. Bastow which is believed to have been inspired by Butterfield's design for St. Paul's Melbourne. Buninyong was another very influential design.¹³⁹ Bastow was no longer directly in charge of schools by the time this school was

136. J. B. Cooper, *The History of Prahran*, p. 249; *Vision and Realisation*, L. J. Blake (ed). Vol. 3, p. 389; HBC File No. 6020410.

137. *Vision and Realisation*, Vol. 3, p. 389.

138. *Vision and Realisation*, p. 389.

139. R. Peterson, *et al.*, chapter 3, pp.7-13.

designed. J. T. Kelleher, another important government architect was in charge of schools in the Eastern Division at this time and was probably influential in the eclectic mix of Queen Anne and Flemish styles used by Charles Manson, architect of this school.

The symmetrical facade features Flemish decorative treatment around the doors and heavy stucco rendered gable ends, which represents an unusual stylistic variation on later Gothic Schools.¹⁴⁰ Queen Anne features include tall red brick chimneys, spiled roof turret, the large volume of the hipped roof, and rectangular paired windows.¹⁴¹ The 1889 addition and later additions are sympathetic to the original design. The building dominates the school site with plantings on the High Street side obscuring the view of the facade from the street.

Comparable examples include Rathdowne Street No. 2605, Carlton (1884) by J. H. Kelleher, Newtown No. 1887, (1876) by H. R. Bastow and also Eaglehawk No. 210, (1883) also by Bastow.¹⁴²

The school was closed in 1990. Subsequently, the building has been used by the Gould League of Victoria, an organisation concerned with environmental education.¹⁴³



140. R. Peterson, *et al.*, chapter 4, p.13.

141. L. Burchell, *Victorian Schools. A Study in Colonial Government Architecture, 1837-1900*, p. 155.

142. R. Peterson, *et al.*, chapter 4, p.1.

143. Sally Wilde, *The History of Prahran 1925-1990*, p. 206. Contains a view of the school in 1922.

Significance

The former Prahran Primary School opened in 1888 is possibly of state significance for architectural, aesthetic and historical reasons. The school has historical importance as an important public building, representing the scale of educational services demanded in the region at the end of the nineteenth century. Architecturally, it is a fine and intact example of a nineteenth century State Primary Schools in the City of Prahran and is of state importance as a unique example of a Late Gothic Urban design, incorporating an unusual combination of Queen Anne and Flemish idioms.

The school has regional significance as a likely focus of cultural sentiment associated with the site and buildings by generations of former pupils. The building has local aesthetic value, prominently sited on High Street, and providing an important local landmark, remaining detached from other buildings on the site, in keeping with historical precedent.



Sources

Burchell, L., *Victorian Schools. A study in Colonial Government Architecture 1837-1900*, 1980.

Chatham, Jane, *Across the Slate. Prahran's Schools. 1850s-1985*, 1985. pp. 24-25.

Cooper, J. B., *The History of Prahran*, 1924.

Education Department records, Public Record Office of Victoria.

Historic Buildings Council File No. 6020410.

Peterson, R., & Heritage Management Branch, *Historic Government Schools: a Comparative Study*, June 1993.

Vision and Realisation, L. J. Blake (ed). Vol. 3, 1973.

Wilde, Sally, *The History of Prahran 1925-1990*, 1993.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this building be retained at A1 level.

Highbridge Hotel, 82 High Street, Prahran



History and Description

The Highbridge Hotel stands on an historic site, where one of Prahran's earliest inns, known as Morrow's Family Hotel, was located in 1855 or earlier. A building is marked on that corner of High Street and Hotham Road (the earlier name for Upton Road) on James Kearney's 1855 map of the area. Morrow's Family Hotel with stabling was recorded in Prahran's earliest 1856 rate book.¹⁴⁴ This building was described as a 10-roomed family hotel with bar, stables and an iron kitchen and stove.¹⁴⁵ Morrow, who came from Waterford in Ireland, lived at the hotel until his death in 1870.¹⁴⁶ Morrow's was one of a number of early hotels built to service Prahran district residents and provide accommodation for travellers during the prosperous 1850s gold rush years. Although some sites of these old inns are still occupied by hotels, many of the hotel buildings have been rebuilt or substantially remodelled.

Morrow's Hotel was rebuilt in 1886 and modernised and extended in 1940.¹⁴⁷ Still known as Morrow's Hotel in the 1890s, an 1895 MMBW drainage plan showed a substantial building on the site with stables and outbuildings at the rear.¹⁴⁸ By the late 1890s, Morrow's became one of the many Victorian hotels owned by the Carlton Brewing Company and was described as a 12-roomed brick building.¹⁴⁹

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144. Prahran Rate Book 1856 No. 2574.
 145. Prahran Rate Books 1857 No. 2864.
 146. Betty Malone, *Prahran's Pubs. 1852-1988*, p.19.
 147. Malone, p. 62.
 148. MMBW Detail Plan No. 963.
 149. Prahran Rate Book 1898-99 Windsor Ward Nos. 9702, 9703.

The designer of the upgraded building is unknown. However, by the turn of the century, the firm of Sydney Smith and Ogg was associated with it.¹⁵⁰ The Carlton Brewing Company and architects Sydney Smith and Ogg worked together from c1900 upgrading many Victorian hotels, including a number of important hotels in Melbourne's central business district. This upgrading formed part of Carlton Brewery's expansion from that time. The 1900 plan shows the hotel as 2-storeyed with stables and a cellar under the front corner section of the building.¹⁵¹ In 1940, the building was modernised and extended at the rear, the old stables and outbuildings being demolished to accommodate the new work.¹⁵²

The exterior of the present building presents a predominantly 1940s appearance and a majority of the fabric of the building appears to date from this period. The orange cavity brick walls are divided horizontally by rendered sections. A typical Art Deco 'cascade' motif features the date 1940. On the western side of the High Street facade, a single storey shop has been added now functions as a restaurant. Internally, the rear rooms and service areas on the ground floor have been altered several times over the years. A section of internal wall, dividing the hotel dining area and the single storey restaurant to the west, could possibly be remains of the earlier building.

Significance

The Highbridge Hotel, once known as Morrow's Family Hotel, has regional significance as an example of an 1880s hotel modernised and rebuilt in 1940. It has regional historical significance as the third hotel on an historic site. The earlier hotel dated from the 1850s gold rush era. This hotel and its predecessor have been important Prahran district meeting places over a very long period. The building remains externally intact, representing a typical Art Deco hotel design, and is of local architectural importance as an example of the manner in which commercial buildings were often improved in the World War II era. It is likely that the cultural sentiment associated with this building which has served as a social centre for generations attributes additional significance to this property.

Sources

City of Prahran Rate Books, Windsor Ward.

City of Prahran Valuers records, Windsor Ward.

Malone, Betty. *Prahran's Pubs. 1852-1988*.

MMBW Detail Plan No. 963.

MMBW House Cover No. 1650.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be ranked A2 for the following reasons:

- The hotel has regional significance relating to its long history as the site of an important district hotel.

150. MMBW House Cover No. 1650.

151. MMBW House Cover No. 1650.

152. MMBW House Cover No. 1650.

- The building has local architectural significance as an externally intact example of a hotel designed in the Art Deco style, popular during and immediately after the Second World War.

Mechanics' Institute, 136-140 High Street, Prahran



History and Description

This imposing red brick building, which dominates the High Street streetscape, has played an important role in the history of technical education in the Prahran district and beyond. Historically, it owes its origins to the Prahran Mechanics Institute, founded in 1854. In 1915, the present brick building at 136-140 High Street was constructed for the Prahran Mechanics Institute and leased to the Education Department for a peppercorn rent (then one shilling a year) for use as a Prahran Technical School.¹⁵³ The Prahran Tech. gradually evolved until it became part of the Prahran Campus of Victoria College.¹⁵⁴

From the 1870s, the Prahran Mechanics Institute had offered classes in art and design. Later, in 1908, Mr. T. Levick from the Working Men's College (now RMIT) began part-time art classes there. The following year, the Prahran Technical Art School was registered with the Education Department.¹⁵⁵ Under the direction of W. R. Dean, the Prahran Tech's second principal, enrolments increased so rapidly that in 1910 larger premises were sought. In 1913, the present High Street site was purchased.¹⁵⁶ Two small earlier buildings on the site since about 1898 were demolished to make way for the new structure.¹⁵⁷

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153. L. B. McCalman, *Pioneer and Hardy Survivor, the Prahran Mechanics' since 1854*, p. 24.
154. Sally Wilde, *The History of Prahran. 1925-1990*, pp.223-224.
155. Sally Wilde, p. 218.
156. J. B. Cooper, *The History of Prahran*, pp. 317-318.
157. MMBW House Cover No. 13276.

The building was designed by the architect E. H. Willis whose other work in Prahran includes Fawkner Mansions on the corner of Punt and Commercial Roads, which is believed to be the earliest existing block of flats in Melbourne.¹⁵⁸

Ground plans of the new brick building are shown on a 1915 MMBW drainage plan. There is a 2-storey High Street building connected to another behind it which extends back to St. Johns Street.¹⁵⁹ This new building was described in the 1916 Windsor Ward rate book as a 12-roomed brick building occupied by Prahran Technical School and owned by the Prahran Mechanics Institute.¹⁶⁰ The total cost of buildings and land was 17,500 pounds with Prahran Council providing a subsidy.¹⁶¹

Over the years there have been many changes. Prahran Technical School moved into secondary and then into tertiary education. Leased to the Government until the year 2046, the building now houses the library resource centre and other facilities of Victoria College (Prahran Campus) and Prahran College of Technical and Further Education. The old-established circulating library of the Mechanics Institute, which now specialises in local history, is housed on the ground floor facing High Street.¹⁶²

The two storey building with its classical red brick facade forms a distinctive land mark on High Street with three copper domed turrets protruding from the roof. Circular vents and flag poles feature in the turrets. The eclectic combination of elements drawn from classical and Romanesque styles, with a predominance of stucco rendering in the facade is characteristic of the Federation Free Style of the early years of this century.

The ground floor has shop front windows with copper frames intact with new doors. The central arched entrance is also altered. A cantilevered verandah is a later addition composed of studded metal sheeting.

Significance

This building, which dominates the High Street streetscape, has state significance relating to its history as the early headquarters of the Prahran Technical School, a major regional educational establishment. The building has significance, also, for its association with the Prahran Mechanics Institute, an important district institution since its foundation in 1854. It is of architectural importance as an example of the work of the architect E. H. Willis. It has cultural importance relating to sentiment attached to this place of education for generations of pupils.

Sources

City of Prahran Rate Books, Windsor Ward.

City of Prahran Valuers records, Windsor Ward.

Cooper, J. B., *The History of Prahran*, 1924.

158. NTA File No. 3167.

159. MMBW House Cover No. 13276.

160. Prahran Rate Book 1915-16 Windsor Ward Nos. 11643; 1916-17 Windsor Ward No. 11667. Not rated.

161. J. B. Cooper, p.318.

162. McCalman, pp. 26, 32-34.

McCalman, L. B., *Pioneer and Hardy Survivor, the Prahran Mechanics' since 1854*, 1983.

MMBW House Cover No. 13276.

National Trust File No. 3167.

Wilde, Saily, *The History of Prahran 1925-1990*, 1993.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

St. Matthew's Church and Hall, 145-151 High Street, Prahran



History and Description

The first Anglican Church service in Prahran was held in a rented cottage on the east side of Chapel Street in 1853. Shortly afterwards, a Church of England Schoolroom in Chapel Street served as an Anglican Church for the next few decades. It was known as St. Matthews (Temporary) Church.¹⁶³ This building was removed from the site in 1877 when the present church was built.¹⁶⁴

A new bluestone building designed by the notable church architects, Terry and Oakden, was constructed in High Street between 1877 and 1878.¹⁶⁵ The opening service was on 28 June 1878. Leonard Terry was the Anglican Diocesan Architect in the early 1870s and his ecclesiastical work has been compared to that of William Wardell.¹⁶⁶ This church is comparable to other works by Terry and Oakden, the Catholic Apostolic Church (now Romanian Orthodox) in Queensberry Street, Carlton and the Holy Trinity Church in Williamstown.¹⁶⁷ Terry and Oakden also designed the gothic polychrome Wesleyan Jubilee Church which occupied the corner of Toorak and Williams Roads, Toorak until recently.

The architectural style chosen has been described as Later Gothic Mainstream Decorated. Bluestone for the bulk of the building came from Williamstown and

163. Jill McDougall, *Church, Community and Change*, pp. 28-31.

164. *Argus*, 8 Dec. 1877.

165. *Argus*, 21 March 1877, 3 Sept. 1877, 28 June 1878.

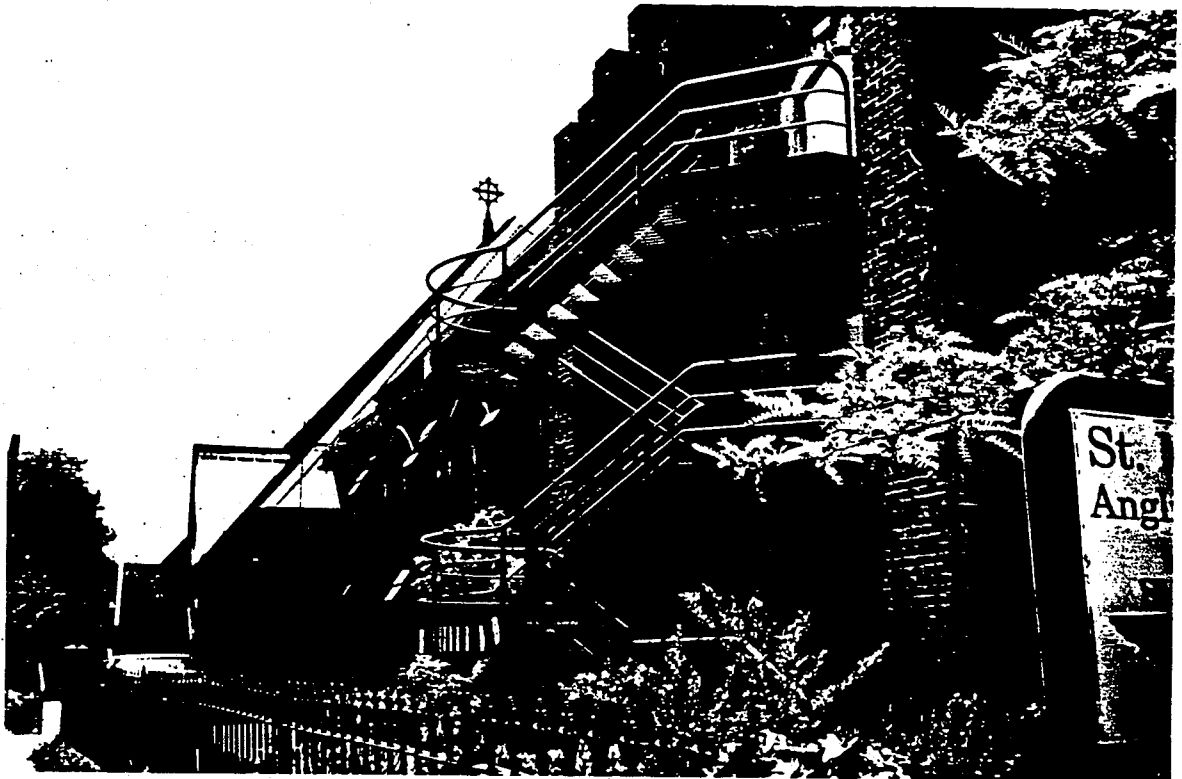
166. Miles Lewis (ed.), *Victorian Churches*, p.23.

167. Lewis, p.50.

Brunswick.¹⁶⁸ The church is particularly notable for its decorated tracery 'which is rich in the west window and slender in the east'.¹⁶⁹

In 1891, a brick Sunday School was built for St. Matthews from the designs of the Melbourne architects, Laver and Fick, who were well-known as designers of ecclesiastical buildings.¹⁷⁰ The asymmetrical facade of this building remains intact at the upper storey level with alterations at street level relating to shop conversions, including a cantilevered verandah. Important architectural features in the facade include stone tracery in the arched windows of the projecting gables. Elements of architectural folly include decorative 'turrets', finials and terracotta ridge tiles, creating an unusual example of a Gothic ecclesiastical building. Later, in 1898, a two-storeyed brick parsonage was constructed, designed by the architects Sydney Smith and Ogg.¹⁷¹ This is the present St Matthews parsonage at 48 The Avenue.

During the 1930s, Louis Williams (Diocesan Architect) was responsible for remodelling the St. Matthews Parish Hall (the former Sunday School), with the aim of providing four shops to the High Street frontage.¹⁷² The row of double storey shops is separated from the church by a large modern building (occupied by the RACV), and clearly reflects its church associations in its architectural detailing.



168. Lewis, p. 78; McDougall, p.30.

169. Lewis, p.78.

170. *BEMJ*, 28 Nov. 1891, p. 235. Perspective illustration.

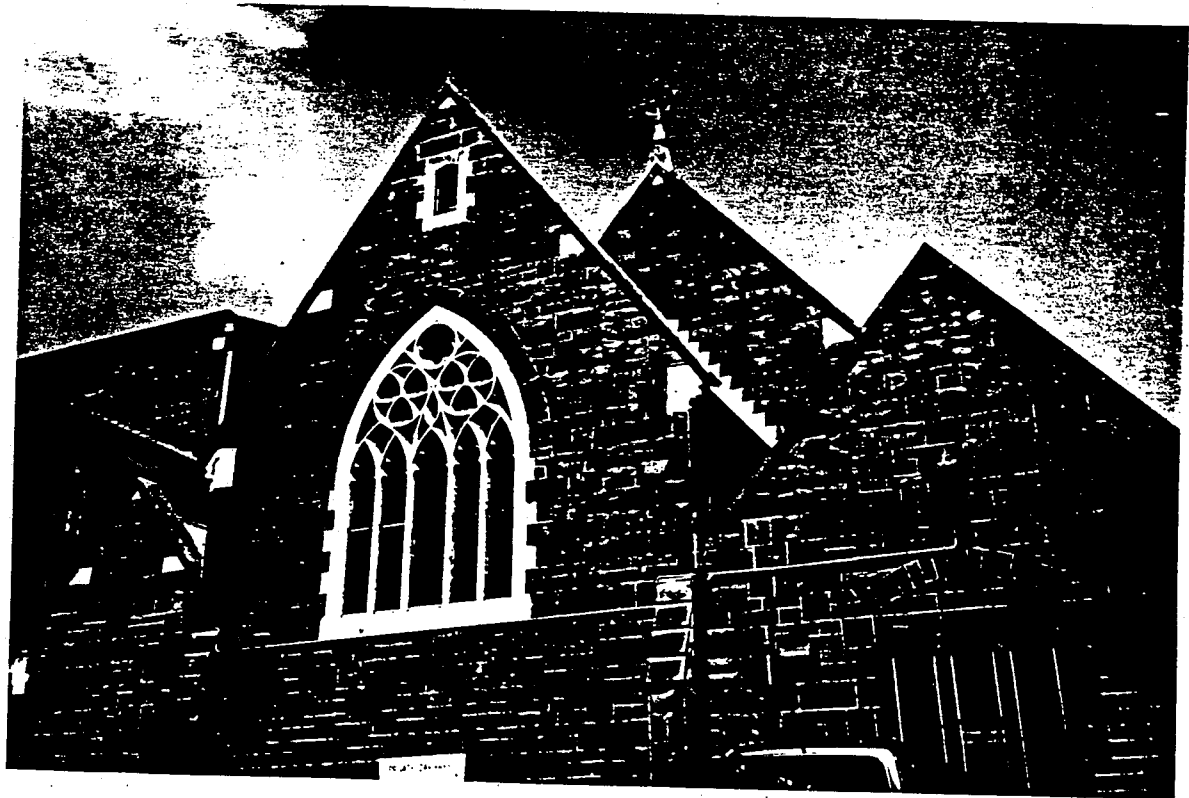
171. *BEMJ*, 7 June 1898 p. 4.

172. *Herald*, 16 Dec, 1936. Contains illustrations and perspective views; MMBW House Cover No. 10039; Louis Williams collection of drawings etc. Picture Collection, SLV.

In May 1982 part of the nave of the church and the south-west corner was destroyed by fire. Some reconstruction was carried out at this time but the original structure of the church was retained.¹⁷³ The western transept has been replaced with a bluestone wall with brick quoins finishing the buttresses. An external steel staircase provides access to three levels of offices in this section of the church. The entry on the eastern side of the facade, with its ornate shafted jamb has a new mirror door. A courtyard is a feature of the recent alterations to the church. The offices which occupy the front section of the church are separated from the rear section by the courtyard which is enclosed by the original nave walls. The rear walls of the church, including sanctuary and vestry are intact.

Significance

The 1870s bluestone church and the former Sunday School Hall (1891, remodelled 1936) have state significance as an Anglican Church complex, an important community meeting place over many decades. The church, which has been altered in recent years, is architecturally significant as an example of a later gothic church. It is externally intact apart from reconstruction of the south-west corner which is sympathetic in materials but distinctly contemporary in design. The church is notable for its decorated tracery, is important as an example of the church work of the architects Terry and Oakden, an architectural firm of high repute, particularly in church design in Victoria in the late nineteenth century. The former Sunday School is of high architectural significance as an unusual example of a Gothic ecclesiastical building, incorporating elements of architectural folly.



173. McDougall, p. 33.

Sources

Argus, 21 March 1877, 3 Sept. 1877, 8 Dec. 1877, 28 June, 1878.

Building Engineering and Mining Journal (BEMJ), 28 Nov. 1891, 7 June, 1898.

Herald, 16 Dec, 1936.

Lewis, Miles. (Ed.), *Victorian Churches*, 1992.

McDougall, Jill, *Church, Community and Change. Religion in Prahran, 1836-1984*, 1985.

MMBW House Cover No. 10039.

Williams, Louis, Collection of drawings etc., Picture Collection, SLV.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

24 Hill Street, Toorak



History and Description

Roy Grounds, who, with Frederick Romberg and Robin Boyd, is regarded as among Australia's most influential architects between 1935 and 1960, was awarded the 1954 annual Street Architecture Medal of the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects, for the design of his house and flats at Hill Street, Toorak.¹⁷⁴ The ground plan of the building is shown in an MMBW drainage plan dated 1955.¹⁷⁵ This plan shows flats 1, 2, 3, 4. Flat 1 was the architect's house. It was the third that Grounds designed for himself and was closely related to his use of geometric forms. It was described in 1981 in these words:

'A tree stood on the site, so Grounds based the house round a circular courtyard to accommodate the tree. The perimeter of the house was a square, with softly texture brick walls rising to a continuous clerestory that gave the roof a floating appearance.... Three flats were attached to the house in a chain stretching towards the rear of the site. Each employed a double height living space, with kitchen and bathroom opening off the ground floor and bedrooms opening off first floor level'.¹⁷⁶

The larger flat built closest to the street is striking in its 'brutalist' simplicity, featuring the flat roof, horizontal strip windows and cement rendered walls typical of Modern architecture. The very wide central door and fine architectural details in the fenestration and eaves, plus the slate pavement in front of the building, planted with

174. Conrad Hamann, 'Grounds, Romberg and Boyd', in *Architects of Australia*, pp. 129, 136.

175. MMBW House Cover No. 267681.

176. Hamann, p. 136.

bamboo, are features which highlight the sculptural qualities of the building. Neil Clerehan praised the design in *Architecture* in 1955:

'This house was but a part of a scheme comprising three studio apartments, a small unit and the owner's residence. The maisonettes grouped to the rear could best be described as a sortie into the spectacular. Deceptively simple in detail and finish they consisted of a minimum of services grouped beside an enormous double height studio. The effect when entering through a compressed hallway into this space shatters the most cynical visitor. That these investment-units proved popular indicated that the latent, seldom satisfied desire in Australia for more beautiful living space, no matter the cost'.¹⁷⁷

Grounds had an interest in the geometric plan form from his earliest student days. He had been influenced by Modern architecture in his travels to Britain and North America between 1929 and 1932. Shortly after returning to Australia and setting up private practice with Geoffrey Mewton, his Henty House at Frankston was acclaimed as 'the best house in Victoria in this century' by the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects. In 1935, his design for the Watt House in Toorak was hailed as Victoria's first genuinely International Style building by Robyn Boyd. The Watt House was also designed around a tree which existed on the site and the building was reduced to a complete absence of detailing. Like the Hill Street flats, the Watt House was finished with lightly bagged brickwork painted a pastel colour.¹⁷⁸ In 1940 he designed a fan-shaped block of flats called Quamby at Toorak. It was his first break with the rectangle and a development which culminated in a series of pure geometrically formed buildings in the 1950s.¹⁷⁹ According to Freeland,

'In and around Melbourne he erected houses in the plan-form of circles, triangles and a square pierced by a hole in the middle He was a man of extraordinary inventiveness, a master of clever detailing..... Grounds geometric buildings were light and graceful, deceptively simple, refined and elegant...'.¹⁸⁰

Grounds was in partnership with Romberg and Boyd between 1953 and 1961. Other important geometric buildings designed by Grounds included his Australian Academy of Science building in Canberra (1957-1959) and the Victorian Arts Centre (1959).¹⁸¹

Significance

This post-Second World War building has state significance on architectural grounds. It is a fine example of the domestic work of Roy Grounds, who is regarded as among Australia's most influential Modern architects between 1935 and 1960. It is the third house the architect designed for himself and exhibits his masterly use of geometric forms, and represents a continuation of a design approach he developed as early as

177. Clerehan p.22.

178. Hamann, p.130.

179. J. M. Freeland, *Architecture in Australia*, p. 276).

180. Freeland, p. 276.

181. Hamann, pp. 129, 130-131, 138.

1935. It won the 1954 Street Architecture Medal of the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects.

Sources

Clerehan, N. 'Roy Grounds' in *Architecture*, Jan-Mar 1955, pp.22-23.

Freeland, J. M., *Architecture in Australia*, 1968.

Hamann, C. 'Grounds, Romberg and Boyd' in H. Tanner (Ed.), *Architects of Australia*, 1981.

MMBW House Cover No. 267681.

RVIA (Royal Victorian Institute of Architects) *Bulletin* Dec. - Jan. 1954-55; 1957.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

Avington, 3 Illawarra Crescent, Toorak



History and Description

In July 1927 Francis M. Burnside, engineer, was rated for a brick residence in Lot 3, Illawarra Crescent, Toorak.¹⁸² The following year, the Burnside's house was identified as Avington, an eleven-roomed brick house.¹⁸³

The designing architects are thought to be Walter and Richard Butler.¹⁸⁴ Walter Butler was in partnership with his nephew after the First World War and until the 1930s. An architect of great talent, Butler was responsible for the design of a number of large houses in Melbourne suburbs, and particularly in Toorak. The most notable are Warrawee (1906) for A. Ruttee Clark and Kamillaroi (1907) for Clive Baillieu (later Baron) and Edzell (1917) for George Russell. The last two were both

182. Prahran Rate Book 1926-27 Toorak Ward No. 1917. NAV 325 pounds.

183. Prahran Rate Book 1928-29 Toorak Ward No. 1580.

184. *Toorak Residential Character Study*.

in St. George's Road, Toorak. These Toorak houses have been described as all 'fine examples of picturesque gabled houses in the domestic revival genre'.¹⁸⁵ Butler died at his Toorak home on 31 May, 1949.¹⁸⁶

Former Avington is a highly accomplished example of a large residence designed in the Old English style. The influence of the Arts and Crafts movement can be seen in the use of different textures and materials and the predominance of romantic architectural forms. Half-timbering is employed in the upper storey sections with tapestry brick or rendered infill. These walls project over the lower walls and porch area in a manner imitating medieval building techniques. The roof and upper gable ends are clad in flat terracotta tile with splayed hood over a long vertical vent. The double hung windows contain diamond leadlight panes. A carport with heavy curved timber brackets spans the driveway leading to a rear garage. The brick driveway complements the fence and garden wall and shrubs, creeping vines and an established oak in the front garden contribute to the picturesque character of the garden.

Significance

The former Avington has significance as a fine example of an inter-war residence designed in the romantic tradition of Old English style architecture, one of a number built at this time for wealthy Toorak businessmen. Picturesque features include the brick driveway, fence and garden wall.

Sources

Australian Dictionary of Biography, (ADB), Vol. 7, pp. 510-511.

City of Prahran, Rate Books, Toorak Ward.

John Curtis Pty. Ltd., *Toorak Residential Character Study*, City of Prahran, 1991.

MMBW House Cover No. 157304.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

185. *ADB* Vol. 7, pp. 510-511.

186. *ADB* Vol. 7, pp. 510-511.

Bona Vista, 59 Kensington Road, South Yarra



History and Description

This brick mansion dates from 1884 when it was built for Margaret, widow of Dr. Edward Charles Hobson, physician and naturalist. It was rated in that year as a brick house of 14 rooms.¹⁸⁷ Its site is part of Crown Allotment 10, adjoining the Yarra River in South Yarra, purchased in July 1844 by Dr. Hobson. On this land, at the end of Kensington Road, Hobson built his home Bona Vista, now known as Grantham at 69 (now 63) Kensington Road.¹⁸⁸

Margaret Hobson's neighbouring 1884 house was known originally as Buena Vista. Here she lived until her death in 1894 when the house became the property of her son, Charles P. Hobson. It was subsequently owned by William Knox and, more recently, until 1951, Sir Richard Linton. It is currently owned by the Commonwealth of Australia.¹⁸⁹

An 1896 MMBW drainage plan shows the former Buena Vista (then listed as 41 Kensington Road) on a large allotment with curving drives, a fountain, and within the house, a fernery and conservatory.¹⁹⁰

During the 1920s an addition was made at the western side of the building, accommodating a large ballroom and lounge. As a result, the verandah adjacent to the corner tower was demolished. The architect for the additions may have been

187. Prahran Rate Book 1884-85 No. 389.

188. National Trust File No. 2665.

189. National Trust File No. 2665.

190. National Trust File No. 2665.

Hawking, who practised in partnership with Grainger, Little, Barlow and Hawking in 1923.¹⁹¹

The owner at this time, and until 1951, was Sir Richard Linton, an important figure in ophthalmology. He became President of the Ophthalmology Society of Australia (now the Royal Australian College of Ophthalmology) after the Second World War. (6. Report prepared for Department of Housing and Construction).

Bona Vista represents a combination of architectural styles. It is an early example of a style in which classical and medieval elements are combined. Its overall Italianate form with its square plan and hipped roof is adorned with a Tudor gabled porch. The corner tower suggests the French Renaissance and the windows vary from multiple pane tudor type to the flat arched classical type. It has been remarked that, although no one style is given full rein, an overall picturesque effect is achieved.¹⁹² The 1880s designing architect is unknown.¹⁹³

Although the exterior of Bona Vista remains largely intact, internally little survives from the Linton or earlier era. The 1980s garden, although new, has been judged as of local significance as one of the few properties in Prahran which continue the tradition of mansion gardens. It contains some significant plantings from the previous garden and the new lake is located on the site of the original fountain shown in the 1895 drainage plan.¹⁹⁴

Significance

Bona Vista is of state historical significance as an example of a 19th century suburban mansion with a tower still in a garden setting, although of later date. It has high architectural significance as an example of one of the earliest known examples of the use of the Queen Ann Revival style in Victoria, displaying an unusual combination of stylistic influences. Located in spacious grounds (recently designed and planted), it is of aesthetic significance and has additional historical importance for its associations with the original Bona Vista (now named Grantham) which was also owned by the famous Hobson family.

Sources

'Bona Vista', *South Yarra*, Report prepared for the Department of Housing and Construction.

City of Prahran Rate Books.

City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

Lewis, Miles, *Australian Architectural Index*, Univ. of Melb., 1990.

National Trust File No. 2665.

MMBW 1895 Drainage Plan.

191. Report prepared for the Department of Housing and Construction, 'Bona Vista', *S. Yarra*.

192. National Trust File No. 2665.

193. Miles Lewis, *Australian Architectural Index* searched.

194. City of Prahran *Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

Grantham (Former Bona Vista), 67 Kensington Road, Toorak



History and Description

Grantham, once a single-storey house in Kensington Road, was originally situated on a large allotment on the southern bank of the River Yarra and known as Bona Vista. It was built about 1845-48 for Dr. Edmund Charles Hobson (1814-1848), pioneer physician and naturalist, possibly from the design of early Melbourne architect, John Gill. From 1910 until 1917, the house was occupied by the artist Frederick McCubbin, and his widow, Annie McCubbin was there until 1922.¹⁹⁵ The ten-roomed brick and stone house of simple colonial design survived virtually intact until the 1920s, when it was purchased by the Hudson family. In 1952, when owned still by the Hudsons, part of the old house was demolished and in 1958 substantial additions were made at the northern side. By 1964, it had increased from a ten-roomed to a 15-roomed brick house.¹⁹⁶ These additions radically altered the old building although the original structure remains recognisable from Kensington Road save for part of the facade and a narrow interior room. In 1982, when it was auctioned with properties at Nos. 63 and 65 (more recent buildings), Grantham was described as a two-storey brick house.¹⁹⁷

Viewed from Kensington Road, Grantham is identifiable by its old roof form consisting of a grouping of small hipped roof sections covered in slate. The earliest section of the house, as deduced from the 1855 Kearney map, could relate to the

195. Sands and McDougall's Directories.

196. National Trust File No. 1072.

197. City of Prahran Valuers records, Toorak Ward Book 8T.

northern most wing overlooking the Yarra. This section, with hipped roof ridge running perpendicularly to Kensington Road has additions on two sides dating from the 1950s, replacing the early return verandah. The section with octagonal projecting bay facing Kensington Road could alternatively be the oldest section, or one built soon after the original. Its Italianate form remains largely intact with six paned double hung windows and French doors in the projecting bay. Both of these sections are evident in the 1896 MMBW plan, with further additions to the south which have since been removed. A dormer window projecting southwards indicates the incorporation of a second storey. A slate hipped roof building, now detached, is part of the adjacent block (63 Kensington Road). Its form, scale and window details link it with Grantham and it has been partly demolished in recent developments on this site. Now located on a cramped site, it is still possible to discern the original aspect overlooking the Yarra which would have been enjoyed by the Hobsons and the McCubbins.

Significance

Grantham, arguably the oldest house surviving in the City of Prahran, which now forms part of a larger structure, has state historical significance for its early date of construction. The house has important historical associations with famous Victorians including the first owner, Dr. Edmund Hobson, pioneer physician, and with the artist, Frederick McCubbin, who lived there from about 1910. His widow, Annie McCubbin, was there until 1922. Although altered significantly on the northern and southern sides, and located on a much reduced site, the original aspect of the house can still be appreciated giving the building architectural and research significance.

Sources

Argus, 7 March, 1848

Australian Dictionary of Biography, Vol. 1.

City of Prahran Rate Books, Toorak Ward.

City of Prahran Valuers records, Toorak Ward.

Kearney, James, *Map of Melbourne and its Suburbs*, 1855.

National Trust File No. 1072.

Registrar-General's Office, Search 8439.

Robb, E. M., *Early Toorak and District*, 1934.

Sands and McDougall's Directories.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

Darnlee, 33 Lansell Road, Toorak



History and Description

This large Toorak house was built c1899 as a private residence for Charles McIntyre, manufacturer.¹⁹⁸ The designing architect was Leonard John Flannagan.¹⁹⁹ Rated in 1901 as owned by Charles McIntyre²⁰⁰ it retains many of its original features.

After 1913, when the property was owned by John Winter-Irving, there were alterations and additions to the rear of the building and the construction of a garage and chauffeur's quarters to house the family's two cars and the man who cared for them.²⁰¹ Drawings dated Nov. 1917 show additions to Darnlee, Lansell Road, for John Winter-Irving.²⁰²

From the 1920s, there were a number of changes in the ownership and name of the property. From 1924-27, it was owned by Harold Riggall of the firm of solicitors, Blake and Riggall, and briefly renamed Somercotes.²⁰³ Then from 1927-38, it was owned by Sarah McKay, widow of H. V. McKay of Sunshine Harvester fame. She lived there until her death, renaming the house, Rayo de Sol. This name referred to the 'McKays of Sunshine'.²⁰⁴ Finally, in 1949, the property was sold to the Public Works Department and called Sewell House. It was occupied by the Red Cross, the

198. *BEMJ*, 12 Aug. 1899. Described as 'recently completed'.

199. J. D. Taylor, 'L. J. Flannagan 1864-1946', Research Report, Department of Architecture and Building, University of Melbourne.

200. Prahran Rate Book 1900-1901 Toorak Ward No. 791.

201. Ann Reid, 'Darnlee Historical Notes and Anecdotes', n.d.

202. L. J. Flannagan, Contract drawings, WD HOU 203 Picture Collection, SLV.

203. Ann Reid.

204. Ann Reid.

Health Department and, in 1966, by the Education Department. From 1976 its name was changed back to Darnlee. From 1985 it has been the Toorak Professional Development Centre.²⁰⁵

A single storey red brick building, this 1890s residence shows the influence during that era of a revival of interest in Queen Anne architecture. It incorporates picturesque timber work in the bargeboards and brackets, plaster frieze in the round tower and tapestry brick inlay in the hipped gable end. The terracotta elements adorning the steeply pitched roof are flamboyant and include patterned tiles on the turret, finials, ridge tiles and gargoyles with pots on the corbelled chimneys, a circular corner tower and steeply roofed gable entrance. The heavy turned timber columns support the simple timber framing of the entrance porch. The polychrome tiled floor to the entrance is all intact. The front garden has been converted to a carpark for the present occupants, and the front fence appears to be original.



Significance

This substantially intact late 1890s residence with c1917 additions at the rear has state architectural significance as an excellent example of the revival of interest in Queen Anne Style applied to domestic architecture in Victoria at the turn of the century which was most marked in residences in affluent suburbs like Toorak. Details of architectural importance are the tower, the entrance porch, the high degree of ornamentation, and complementary front fence.

205. Ann Reid.

Sources

Building, Engineering and Mining Journal (BEMJ) 12 Aug. 1899.

City of Prahran Rate Books, Toorak Ward.

Contract Drawings L. J. Flannagan, Picture Collection, SLV.

Reid, Ann, 'Darnlee Historical Notes and Anecodes'. n.d.

National Trust File No. 6126.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

55 Lansell Road, Toorak



History and Description

This two-storey residence, thought to have been designed by Harry Norris²⁰⁶ was constructed in 1940-41 for Hugh Wallace Smith, sharebroker. It was described in that year as a 16-roomed brick house at 31 Lansell Road, the earlier numbering.²⁰⁷

A 1940-41 MMBW drainage plan shows the property on its corner site with a large terrace on the Towers Street side. A garage is incorporated into the east side of the building next to a laundry area. A. Oliver of 383 Wattletree Road, East Malvern, named as agent on this plan was a local builder.²⁰⁸

The residence became the home of G. J. Coles, well-known Victorian businessman, from c1946 until his death.²⁰⁹

The building's design is geometric in form. Smooth rendered brick walls rise to form a plain parapet, which conceals the flat roof of the basically rectangular structure. The windows, which puncture the walls, are uniform depth but vary in width and placement. A constant sill height and a continuous projecting horizontal hood link the fenestration and provide an appearance of uniformity to the facade. Strips of glass bricks, a popular design feature at this time, are employed and also form a bay to the north of the building. At ground floor level the northern facade curves away to the west creating a roof garden. The 'ocean liner' image is evoked in this form and is reminiscent of the luxurious Burnham Beeches residence in Sassafra, designed by

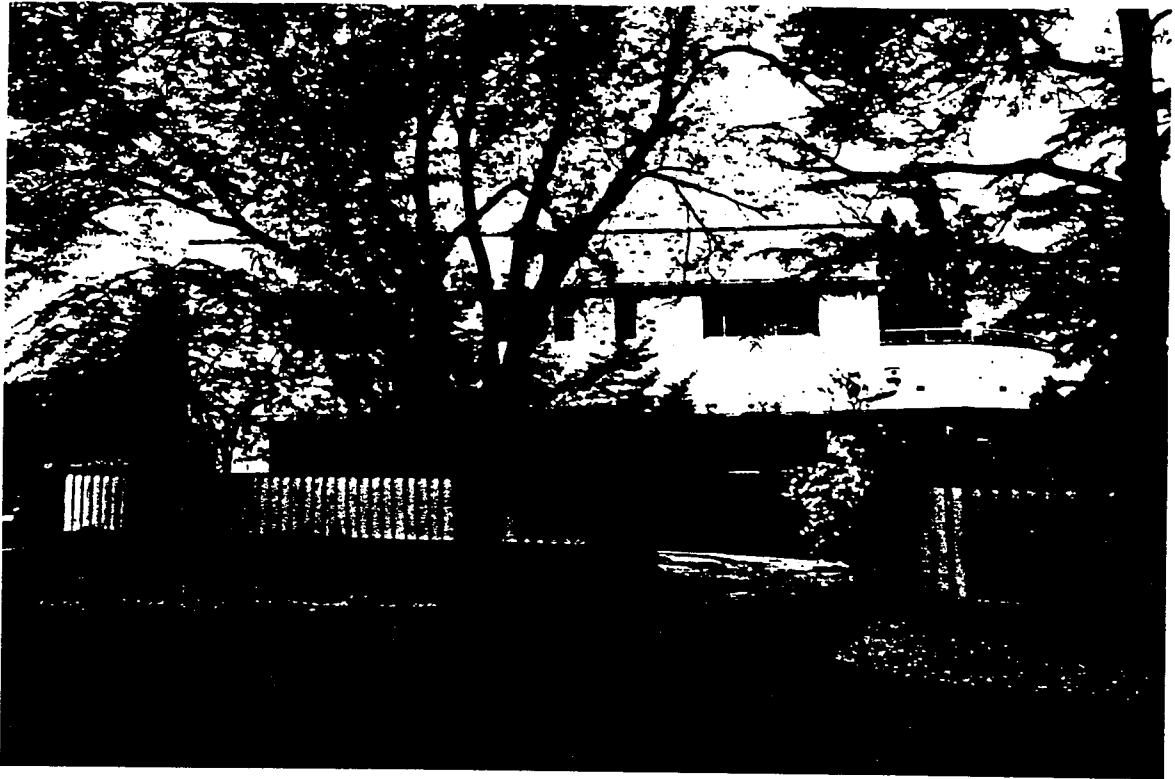
206. John Curtis Pty. Ltd., *Toorak Residential Character Study*

207. Prahran Rate Book 1940-41 Toorak Ward No. 3023.

208. MMBW House Cover No. 194985.

209. Sands & McDougall Directories.

Norris in 1930.²¹⁰ The building occupies an irregularly shaped corner block partly bordered by a granite fence, matching the pilasters in the side entrance.



Significance

This 1940s Toorak residence has state architectural significance as a fine example of the experimentation in geometric forms carried out in Melbourne at this time as a result of the influence of the International style precedent in Europe. The irregularly shaped corner block is partly bordered by a granite fence that matches the pilasters in the side entrance and contributes to the design significance of the site. The house has research value related to its possible association with the architect Harry Norris, one of the major Melbourne practitioners of this style. The residence has state historical importance as the home of the Victorian businessman, G. J. Coles, over a long time.

Sources

Apperly, R., R. Irving and P. Reynolds *Identifying Australian Architecture*, p. 184.

City of Prahran Rate Books. Toorak Ward.

Curtis, John Pty. Ltd., *Toorak Residential Character Study*, 1992.

Hamann, Conrad, 'Grounds, Romberg and Boyd' in H. Tanner (ed), *Architecture of Australia*, 1981. (Discussion of geometric style).

MMBW House Cover No. 194985.

Sands and McDougall's Directories.

210. Apperly et al, p.184.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

2 Lascelles Avenue, Toorak



History & Description

In 1933 Ernest Leviny, woolbuyer, was rated for Lot 22, vacant land at 2 Lascelles Avenue, Toorak.²¹¹ The following year, an eleven-roomed brick house was recorded on the site owned and occupied by James E. C. Leviny, woolbuyer.²¹² Leviny's residence was designed by the architect Marcus William Martin, one of Victoria's most prolific domestic architects of the inter-war period.²¹³

According to one writer, the Leviny house was typical of this architect's interest in decorative detailing at this period. Such houses,

'were not symmetrical, and sometimes featured one long vertical window which was quite different from all others in terms of its glazing bars or some other form of distinctive decoration, and acted as a light to the stairs in the entrance hall. Good examples of this device are found in the John house, Wilks Ave., Malvern (1933), and the Leviny house.... These buildings presented to the street either a flat facade with hip roof, as in the Johns and Leviny houses, or else a hipped and gabled section projecting from the main building mass..... Their chimneys were simplydetailed.'²¹⁴

This house has an asymmetrical two storey facade with a distinctive Mediterranean character in the rendered surfaces, the use of shutters and the semi-circular wrought

211. City of Prahran Rate Book 1933-34 Toorak Ward No.1475.

212. City of Prahran Rate Book 1934-35 Toorak Ward No. 1584. NAV 200 pounds.

213. Bryce Raworth, 'Marcus Martin: a Survey of his Life and Work,' p.19, illustration fig.38.

214. Bryce Raworth, 'Marcus Martin: a Survey of his Life and Work,' p.19.

iron balcony with French doors above the quoined and arched entrance. The matching fence and sparsely planted garden are complementary to the design.

Marcus Martin (1893-1981) was born in Launceston, Tasmania, the son of Marcus Dumas Martin, bank manager. The family settled in Melbourne in 1908. After his schooling at Melbourne Grammar School, Marcus William Martin served his articles with the architects, A. & K. Henderson, who specialised in designs for shops, banks and warehouses. In 1921, Martin entered into partnership with Rodney Alsop. He established his own practice in 1924 and in 1926 entered a new partnership with Walter Butler and his nephew, Austin Richard Butler. The firm specialised in residential and commercial work. By 1929, it was noted that Martin had been associated with designs for residences, flats, banking offices, factories and other commercial work.²¹⁵

Martin designed a number of important Toorak houses, particularly in Domain Road, between 1920 and 1950. His town houses were characterised by their elegance.²¹⁶

Significance

This 1934 brick residence, the home of James Leviny, woolbuyer, is of State significance as a fine example of the work of Marcus Martin, one of Victoria's most prolific domestic architects in the inter-war period. It is a fine example of Spanish Mission domestic architecture, which with the Old English and Neo-Georgian styles were popular architectural influences in the 1920s in the Prahran area. The matching fence and sparsely planted garden are complementary in design.

Sources

Age, 15 Dec, 1981 (obituary).

City of Prahran Rate Book, Toorak Ward.

Raworth, Bryce, 'Marcus Martin: a Survey of his Life and Work', Investigation Project, Univ. of Melbourne, 1986.

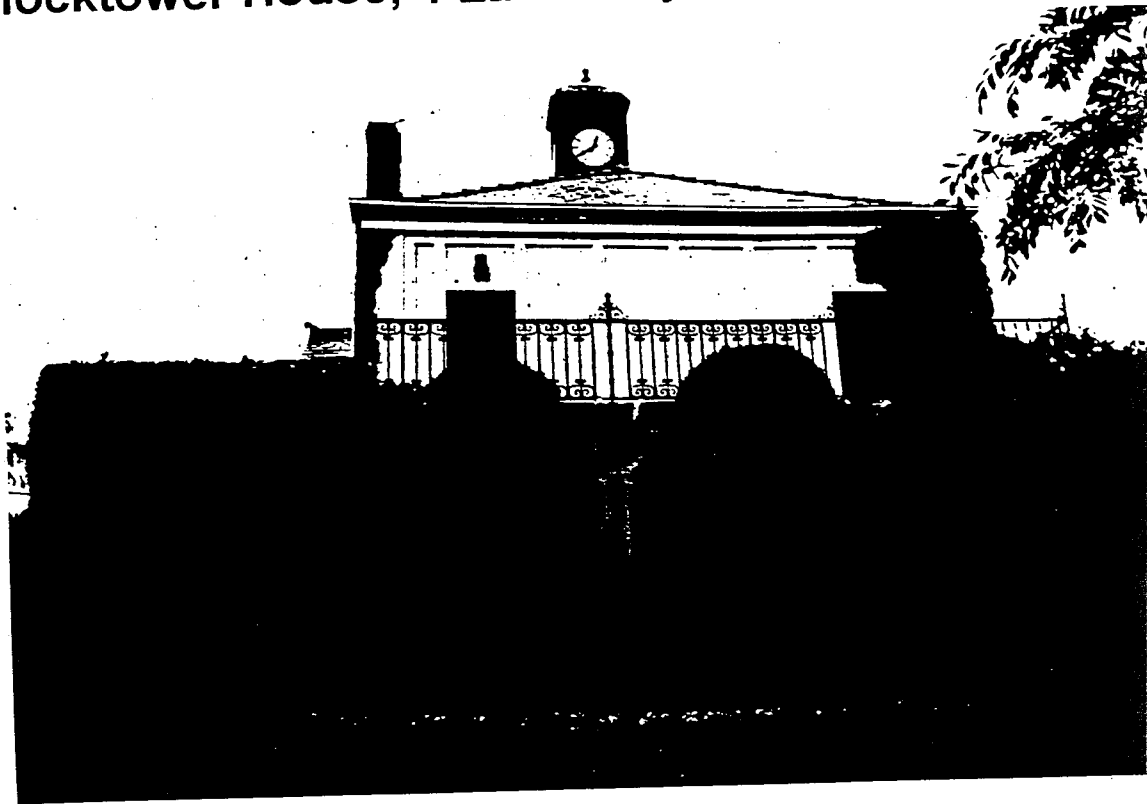
Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

215. Bryce Raworth, 'Marcus Martin: a Survey of His Life and Work'.

216. *Age*, 15 Dec. 1981-obituary.

The Clocktower House, 4 Lawrenny Court, Toorak



History and Description

This former motor garage and chauffeur's residence most probably built for Nicholas family in the 1920s, was once part of the old Homeden property in Lan Road. The mansion Homeden was built in 1889-90 for Supreme Court Judge Justice Henry Edward Hodges.²¹⁷ An 1896 MMBW drainage plan shows Homeden one of the largest properties in the area, with its carriage drive sweeping to Lan Road and a stable block at the rear.²¹⁸

When Judge Hodges retired to Mt. Macedon in about 1900, Edward Noel Grimwade, of the firm Felton and Grimwade, wholesale pharmacists, bought Homeden property. Later, when Grimwade retired to Macedon, the property subdivided and the house bought by George Nicholas of Aspro fame.²¹⁹ The two storey motor garage and chauffeur's residence, designed to represent a 19th century stable with a bronze clock tower, is believed to date from this time.

Later, the old mansion was replaced by multi-storey flats and its grounds subdivided, resulting in the formation of Lawrenny Court. However, the motor garage and chauffeur's residence with the clock tower survived, to be used as a private home.²²⁰ City of Prahran Valuers records contain a copy of an *Age* article describing the alterations and additions carried out to convert this building into a private dwelling in the 1980s after the purchase in 1979 by John and Jane

217. Prahran Rate Book 1990-91 Toorak Ward No. 818.

218. MMBW Detail Plan No. 929.

219. Sally Wilde, *The History of Prahran*, p. 67.

220. Wilde, p. 67.

McKindly. Titled 'The Clocktower House', the article tells how Judith, 'the designer-decorator ideas person' used as much of the original garage as possible as she wished to 'capture the essence of the place'. The original garage floor with its white salt-glazed tiles bordered by a row of black (where the Rolls Royce once stood) was retained. Seven of the fifteen tall, concertina-like garage doors were used as a divider between the gallery style kitchen and another three were used in the laundry.²²¹

The former owner of Homeden, Sir Acland Lord, sold some of the fabric of the demolished mansion to the McKindleys for use in their reconstruction of the motor garage. These included the blackwood and copperlight door of Homeden and the tall, arched, coloured glass windows from the stairwell which have been incorporated into the entrance. The writer explained:

'The magnificent arched doorway, almost four metres tall, is now firmly placed in a new arched and canopied entry built during the transformation of garage to a comfortable and unique two-storey house. The long stairwell window was split in two and judiciously placed in the sitting/dining room.'²²²

More than \$22,000 was spent on these alterations/additions.²²³



The two storey building is constructed of brick on the lower level with half-timbered upper storey featuring double hung windows reflecting a Federation Free Style which combines the Medieval domestic ideas with those of the Queen Anne revival. The porch, containing the reconstructed windows from Homeden is positioned approximately centrally in the northern facade. Modern glazing has been introduced

221. *Age*, 29 Oct. 1983.

222. *Age*, 29 Oct. 1983

223. City of Prahran Valuers records, Toorak Ward Book 15T.

elsewhere at ground level, including in the attached single storey building which has a hipped slate roof with terracotta ridge matching the main section of the residence. The roof is dominated by a small clock tower with pressed metal base and cap with an intricate wooden face frame.



Significance

This 1920s former motor garage and chauffeur's residence with its clock tower, converted into a private residence in the 1980s, has regional historical significance as a reminder of the lifestyle of wealthy Toorak families during the inter-war period, when they housed their expensive motor cars and the chauffeurs who cared for them in elegant specially designed buildings combining a garage, workshop and living quarters. The lower storey has been altered reducing the architectural intactness of the building, which has regional design significance as an example of buildings purpose built for wealthy residents to accommodate cars and their chauffeurs.

Sources

Age, 29 Oct. 1983.

City of Prahran Valuers Records Toorak Ward.

MMBW Detail Plan No. 929.

Wilde, Sally, *The History of Prahran 1925-1990*, 1993.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be ranked A2 for the following reasons:

- The building has historical significance as a re-working of a former motor garage and chauffeur's residence, a reminder of the affluent lifestyle of wealthy Toorak families in the inter-war years.
- The building has been altered to a large extent at the ground floor level, reducing its level of intactness. Overall, the former garage and residence has regional architectural significance as an example of the Old English style applied to this building type.
- The building has research value. The rarity of this type of building is not known. Should it be revealed that this is one of a very small number of inter-war chauffeur's residence and garage, it may be raised above the regional level of significance on design criteria.

30 Macfarlan Street, South Yarra



History and Description

Local gardeners, Thomas and Robert Morrison, were associated last century with the pair of double-fronted timber houses at 30 and 34 Macfarlan Street, South Yarra. Nearby, north of Toorak Road and close to Punt Road, the Ralston Nursery operated in the 1850s and 1860s.²²⁴

Crown Grantee in 1850 of Portion 38 (the site of 30 Macfarlan Street) was Peter Davis. He subdivided his 53 acres in 1854. Thomas Morrison, gardener, purchased Lot 19 in June 1858. This block faced Davis Street, the earlier name for Macfarlan Street.²²⁵ The following year, a five-roomed wooden and slate house was recorded on the site. It was owned by Thomas Morrison and occupied by Edward Ashford.²²⁶ In the 1860s a similar wooden building was erected next door for Robert Gavin (or Givan), labourer. In 1862, Gavin's house was described as 'building in course of erection.'²²⁷ By 1869 both houses were described as six-roomed wooden houses with similar valuations.²²⁸ Thomas Morrison owned both by the early 1870s.²²⁹

By 1881, Nos. 10 and 12 Davis Street, were owned and occupied by Thomas and Robert Morrison.²³⁰ By 1888, Robert was living still at No. 12.²³¹ By 1896 both

224. Betty Malone, *The North-West Corner*. See map.

225. RGO Search 38635.

226. Prahran Rate Book 1859 No. 839.

227. Prahran Rate Book 1862 No. 879.

228. Prahran Rate Book 1869 Vol. 1 Nos. 960-961.

229. Prahran Rate Book 1873 Vol. 1 Nos. 1222, 12223.

230. Prahran Rate Book 1881 Vol. 1 Nos. 1599, 1600.

231. Prahran RB 1888-89 South Yarra Ward No. 1913.

houses, still owned by Thomas and Robert Morrison, were let to carriers.²³² An MMBW drainage plan of that date shows the two houses with front and back verandahs. There are large stables at the rear opening onto a right-of-way.²³³

In 1910, Robert sold the site of No. 34.²³⁴ However, he owned No. 30 still, letting it in 1911 to William Dunn, carter.²³⁵ By the 1920s, No. 30 was still owned by the Morrison Estate.²³⁶

More recently, in February 1992, Nos. 30, 34 and 36 Macfarlan Street, which comprised two double-fronted wooden houses and a factory building, was auctioned and purchased by the City of Prahran. The factory had been associated with the Caslakes, major wrought-iron manufacturers. Nos. 30 and 34 were described in City of Prahran Valuers records at this time as five and six-roomed wooden houses, No. 30 still with its slate roof.²³⁷ A recent MMBW drainage plan shows the pair without their earlier verandahs.²³⁸

The house is a simple symmetrical cottage with hipped slate roof and hipped convex verandah still intact. The simple form of the house has not been altered and beaded weatherboards are in good condition. Further research of 34 Macfarlan Street is required in order to establish the level of intactness of that building which is of equal historical importance as 30 Macfarlan Street.



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- 232. Prahran Rate Book 1896-97 South Yarra Ward Nos. 3145, 3146.
 - 233. MMBW Detail Plan No. 949.
 - 234. RGO Search No. 38635.
 - 235. Prahran Rate Book 1911-12 South Yarra Ward No. 3955.
 - 236. Prahran Rate Book 1925-26 South Yarra Ward No. 1884.
 - 237. City of Prahran Valuers records Book No. 18SY.
 - 238. MMBW House Cover No. 9506.

Significance

This timber house (one of a pair with No. 34) dating from the 1850s, has state historical significance for its early date of construction and association over a long period with Thomas and Robert Morrison, local Prahran gardeners. The house has associations with two important early industries - horticulture, which flourished in the South Yarra area in the 1850s and 1860s, and with the carrying trade, an important service industry. The house at 34 Macfarlan Street is of equal historical significance and further field research is required to establish whether it is in a comparable state of physical intactness and therefore design significance.

Sources

City of Prahran Rate Books, South Yarra Ward.

City of Prahran Valuers records, South Yarra Ward.

Malone, Betty, *The North-West Corner*, 1987.

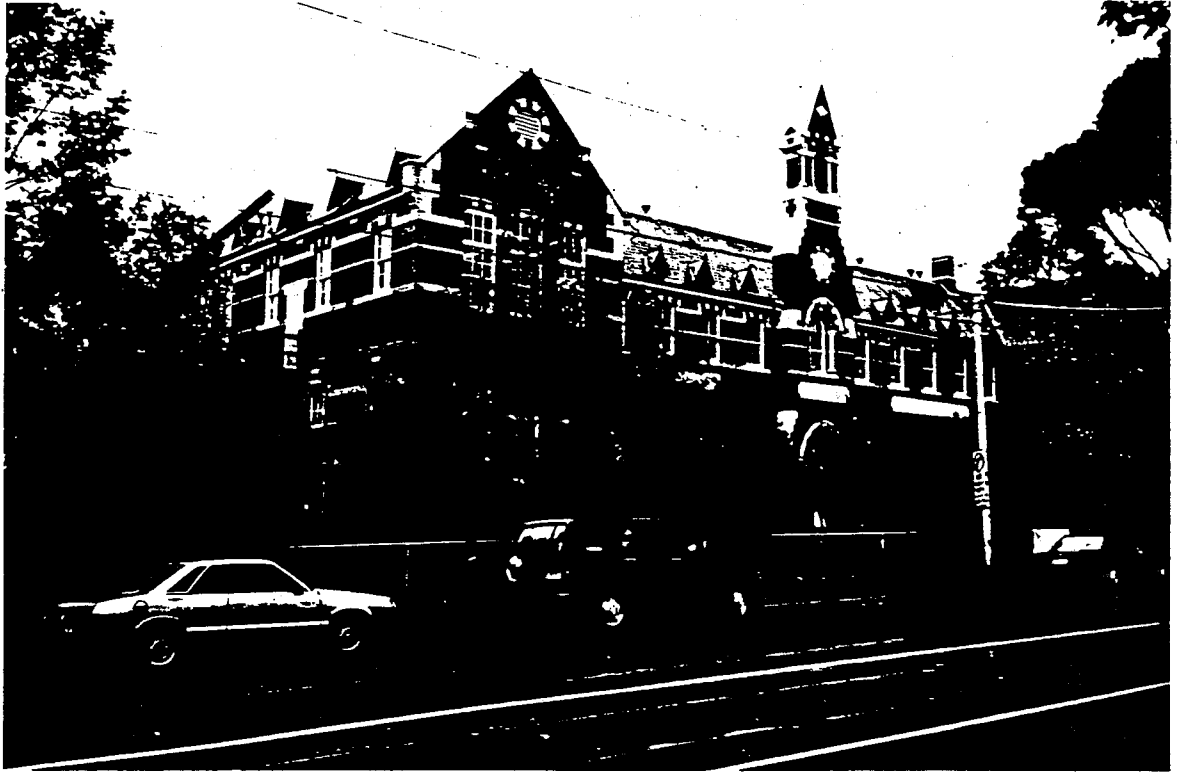
MMBW House Cover No. 9506, Detail Plan No. 949.

Registrar-General's Office Search 38635.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

Hawksburn Primary School No. 1467, 369 Malvern Road, South Yarra



History and Description

Hawksburn Primary School was the first school built by the Education Department in Prahran after the introduction of compulsory education into Victoria in 1872. It has always been the largest primary school in the district. The school was opened in January 1875 on land purchased in 1873 from Mrs. Margaret Hobson. The new two-storeyed brick school was erected in 1874 from the designs of the notable Melbourne architects Crouch and Wilson.²³⁹ Crouch and Wilson, a very successful Melbourne architectural firm in the nineteenth century, were well-known for a wide variety of residential, commercial and institutional work, and especially church designs.²⁴⁰

Over a third of Victoria's schools were built between 1873-1875. Many schools of this time were of a symmetrical plan with two storeys, and were built in the inner metropolitan area to accommodate 500-1000 pupils each. Architectural competitions, were held for school designs in 1873 and a small number these designs became influential prototypes for schools designed by the Victorian Education Department (1876-1883), and later by the Public Works Department (1883-1900). Crouch and Wilson were competitors in one of these competitions with M. Schneider, W. H. Ellender, Wharton and Vickers, and Reed and Barnes.²⁴¹ Although this design was not a 'prototype', it has similarities to Buninyong, perhaps the most

239. J. B. Cooper, *The History of Prahran*, p. 249.

240. N. Lewis and R. Aitken, *Malvern Heritage Study*, 1992, Appendix 1, p.40.

241. Richard Peterson *Historic Government Schools: A comparative study*, chapter 3, p.3..

influential of the competition designs identified by R. Peterson as Early Education Department Competition Schools.

The large school building is a symmetrical polychrome brick with essentially Gothic detail which was the common design approach derived from the competition designs of the mid 1870s. The predominance of Gothic detailing in this building is given a Venetian character by the inclusion of polychrome in the window dressings and courses. The steep slate roof is decorated with gabled vents, complete with iron finials. The central section of the facade includes a bell tower which projects above the rest of the building, and is very similar to the bell-tower in Buninyong primary School, one of the most influential of the 1873 competition designs.²⁴² Several windows have been enlarged in the front gables and in the western wall. Additions to the north east of the building are sympathetic in scale, style and materials. Other comparisons with this school, are Albert Park No. 1181, by architect M. Schneider; Brighton No. 1542 (1875), by Terry & Oakden; Lee Street, Carlton (1878) and Gold Street, Clifton Hill (1874), by N. H. Kelleher.

The new school was known as Prahran Primary School until 1888, when its name was changed to Prahran North. Finally, in 1906 it became Hawksburn to distinguish it from other Prahran schools.²⁴³

A caretaker's cottage was built in 1882.²⁴⁴ The original building and caretaker's cottage (now demolished) are shown on an MMBW drainage plan dated 1901.²⁴⁵

In 1908, the original school site was extended by the purchase of adjoining land in Cromwell Road. A new infant building was erected on this in 1911 by the Public Works Department.²⁴⁶ The original school building was remodelled in 1924 with an extension on the north-east side of the building.²⁴⁷ Later, in the 1960s, the Education Department purchased four houses adjoining the school in Surrey Road. These houses were demolished and the school grounds extended.²⁴⁸

Significance

Hawksburn Primary School is of state significance as the first school built by the Education Department in Prahran after the introduction of compulsory education into Victoria in 1872. The school, designed by notable architects, Crouch and Wilson, and opened in 1875, with extension to the building in 1924 and to the grounds in 1908 and 1960s, has always been the largest primary school in the district. It has state design significance as one of a small number of competition designs by well-known architects, commissioned after the 1873 Education Act. The building has high architectural importance as an example of the work of the prominent nineteenth century architectural firm of Crouch and Wilson, and a very intact example of an early Education Department competition school.

242. R. Peterson, 1993, chapter 4. p.7.

243. Jane Chatham, *Across the Slate Prahran's Schools 1850s-1985*, 1985, pp. 23-24.

244. Shirley W. Wiencke. *Hawksburn School and District. A Short History*, p.9.

245. MMBW House Cover No. 20099.

246. J. B. Cooper, p. 249.

247. MMBW House Cover No. 20099; PWD Summary of Contract Books 1924-25 No. 135.

248. Wiencke, p. 27; MMBW House Cover No. 20099; Plan dated 31 March 1966.

The school has regional significance for the likely cultural sentiment attached to it by generations of pupils. It has aesthetic importance relating to the integrity of the site, maintaining the traditional detached status and landmark qualities of the building.

Sources

Burchell, L., *Victorian Schools. A Study in Colonial Government Architecture, 1937-1900*, 1980.

Chatham, Jane, *Across the Slate Prahran's Schools 1850s-1985*, 1985, pp. 23-24.

Cooper, J. B. *Across the Slate. Prahran's Schools 1850s-1985*, 1985.

Cooper, J. B., *The History of Prahran*, p. 249.

Education Department records, Public Record Office of Victoria.

Historic Buildings Council File No. 002040K.

Nigel Lewis and Richard Aitken, *Malvern Heritage Study*, 1992.

MMBW House Cover No. 20099.

Peterson, Richard, *Historic Government Schools: A comparative study*.

Plan dated 31 March 1966.

PWD Summary of Contract Books 1924-25 No. 135.

Wiencke, Shirley W., *Hawksburn School and District. A Short History*, 1975.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this building be retained at A1 level.

372 & 374 Malvern Road, Prahran



History and Description

This pair of two-storey bluestone houses were constructed between 1863 and 1864 by James Hole, local stonemason and builder.²⁴⁹ These houses are an unusual type of building construction in the Prahran area but obviously relate to the skills of the first owner. Hole had an interest in the site from the early 1860s and was rated in 1862 for vacant land in Commercial Road.²⁵⁰ The name Commercial Road is now only used for the continuation of Malvern Road on the west side of Punt Road.

In 1863 Hole was rated for a five-roomed stone and brick and slate house (NAV 36 pounds) and an 'unfinished building' (NAV 6 pounds) on the site of 372-374 Malvern Road.²⁵¹ By 1864, Hole's two stone houses were completed. One was occupied by Hole and the other by Gerald Supple, a barrister.²⁵² Hole continued to live in one house and rent the other. Tenants included Thomas Elms, tailor, and Robert Pearce, mariner.²⁵³ Hole became a well-known Prahran resident. He was a Prahran Councillor from 1872-1887 and owned a number of other local properties, including two four-roomed wooden houses in Bendigo Street and a house in Malvern Road.²⁵⁴

Hole's Malvern Road stone houses are simple in design, together comprising a symmetrical facade with a concave verandah supported on unadorned pairs of timber columns. The stonework tuck-pointed stonework and vermiculated quoins are

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249. Town of Prahran Rate Book 1863 Nos. 1697, 1698; 1864 Nos. 1580, 1581.
250. Prahran Rate Book 1862 No. 1669.
251. Prahran Rate Book 1863 Nos. 1697, 1698.
252. Prahran Rate Book 1864 Nos. 1580, 1581.
253. Prahran Rate Book 1866 No. 1749; 1872 Vol. 1. No. 2025.
254. Prahran Rate Books 1872 Nos. 2052, 2054, 2153.

mostly painted. The eastern house has intact windows with coloured panes and polychrome tiled verandah floor with slate trim. The ground floor is exposed stonework. The house on the west side is less intact, with windows, doors and verandah floor replaced. A turn of the century drainage plan shows the pair of houses with front verandahs facing Malvern Road and an outbuilding at the rear of No. 374. At this time, Harriet Wilson was owner/occupier of No. 372 and T. Overton of No. 374.²⁵⁵

Significance

This pair of early 1860s bluestone houses has state design significance as an unusual type of building construction in the Prahran area. The houses have significance, also, for their associations with early local stonemason and builder, James Hole, who was a Prahran Councillor from 1872 to 1887. During his ownership of the properties, Hole lived in one and let the other.

Sources

City of Prahran Rate Books, (Town of Prahran records).

City of Prahran Valuer's records.

MMBW House Covers Nos. 22589, 21526.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

255. MMBW House Cover Nos. 22589, 21526.

Tsoshaan Flats, 777 Malvern Road, Toorak.



History and Description

The Tsoshaan Flats, one of the earliest purpose-built blocks of flats surviving in Melbourne, was built in stages between 1918 and 1922. The first four six-roomed brick flats were rated first in 1918.²⁵⁶ Previously the site was vacant land owned by the well known architect, Arthur W. Purnell who was the first owner of the flats and was also the designer, working at the time in the partnership Beaver and Purnell.²⁵⁷

The design has strong Eastern influence in its pagoda roof form and other bungalow features such as pergolas and deep balconies. The pilasters, moulded eaves brackets and urns mounted against the walls contribute to the palatial character of the building. The house is surrounded by large plantings of cedar and camphor laurel. A driveway enters from the corner through a pagoda roofed gate flanked by large *Cypressus torulosa*. Garden beds are constructed of volcanic boulders lining the driveway and paths.

The first tenants included Cedric Ballantyne, another distinguished architect (Flat 1), Purnell and James Bruce, manager, occupied Flat 2. Other tenants were James Montgomery, merchant (Flat 3) and Frederick Hentze, buyer. In 1919 the flats were acquired by Doctor Webb, a Collins Street physician.²⁵⁸ Flats 1 and 2, occupied by architects Purnell and Ballantyne, had higher valuations than the others).

By May 1922 three additional six-roomed flats had been added, the architect Purnell moving into Flat 7. The newer flats had lower valuations than the original four and

256. City of Prahran Rate Book 1918-19 Toorak Ward Nos. 1386, 1387, 1388, 1389.

257. *Real Property Annual*, 1918, p. 58 illustration.

258. City of Prahran Rate Book 1919-20 Toorak Ward Nos. 1422, 1423, 1424, 1425.

are situated to the east of the original building which faced Irving Street. Other tenants in this year were Fred Hentze, merchant; William Hansen, gentleman; Mrs Jessie Anderson; Fred Hill, woolbuyer; Edward Duckett and May E. Stirling.²⁵⁹

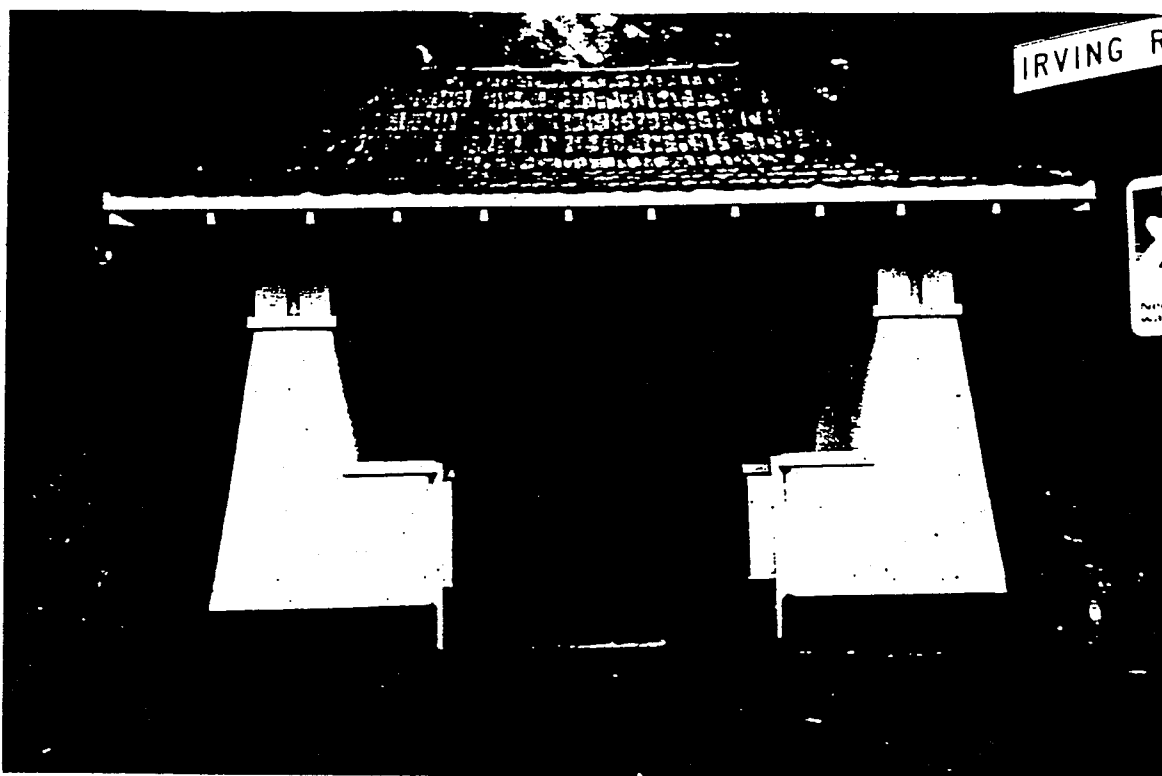
The following year the property passed into the hands of the National Mutual Life Association of Australasia²⁶⁰ and then, in 1923, to George McAlpin.²⁶¹ Some tenants remained but the architect Purnell vacated Flat 7.

Tsoshaan is also notable for its garden setting, which reflects the building's Eastern style of architecture. The gate, serpentine drive and plantings in the wall at first floor level are of particular note. Arthur Purnell used the same exotic combination for his own house at 490 Punt Road, South Yarra, in 1926.²⁶²

Purnell, who is presumed to have been the dominant partner in the firm of Beaver and Purnell, spent a number of years working in China early this century. A number of his buildings, including Tsoshaan, show an oriental influence relating to those China years. This influence was also shown in his own house, Shameen, at 1050 Malvern Road, (c1916) and his later residence at 490 Punt Road, South Yarra (c1926). Purnell's long career extended into the 1930s and during the post-war period.²⁶³



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259. City of Prahran Rate Book 1921-22 Toorak Ward Nos. 1504-10.
260. City of Prahran Rate Book 1922-23 Toorak Ward Nos. 1551-1557.
261. City of Prahran Rate Book 1923-24 Toorak Ward Nos. 1697-1703.
262. City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study* p.26.
263. National Trust File No. 6263).



Significance

Tsoshaan has State significance as one of the earliest and most interesting examples of custom-built blocks of flats surviving in Melbourne. Built in stages between 1918 and 1922, to the design of a leading domestic architect, Arthur W. Purnell, Tsoshaan is an important example of his work and of early flat development in Toorak. Its significance is enhanced by a complementary garden setting which reflects the building's distinctive Eastern style of architecture. Garden features include a driveway through a Pagoda-roofed gate and garden beds with volcanic boulders lining the driveway and paths.

Sources

City of Prahran Rate Books, Windsor Ward.

City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Gardens Study*.

Clare, John. *The Post-Federation House in Melbourne*.

John Curtis Pty Ltd., *Toorak Residential Character Study*.

National Trust of Australia (Vic.) File No. 6263.

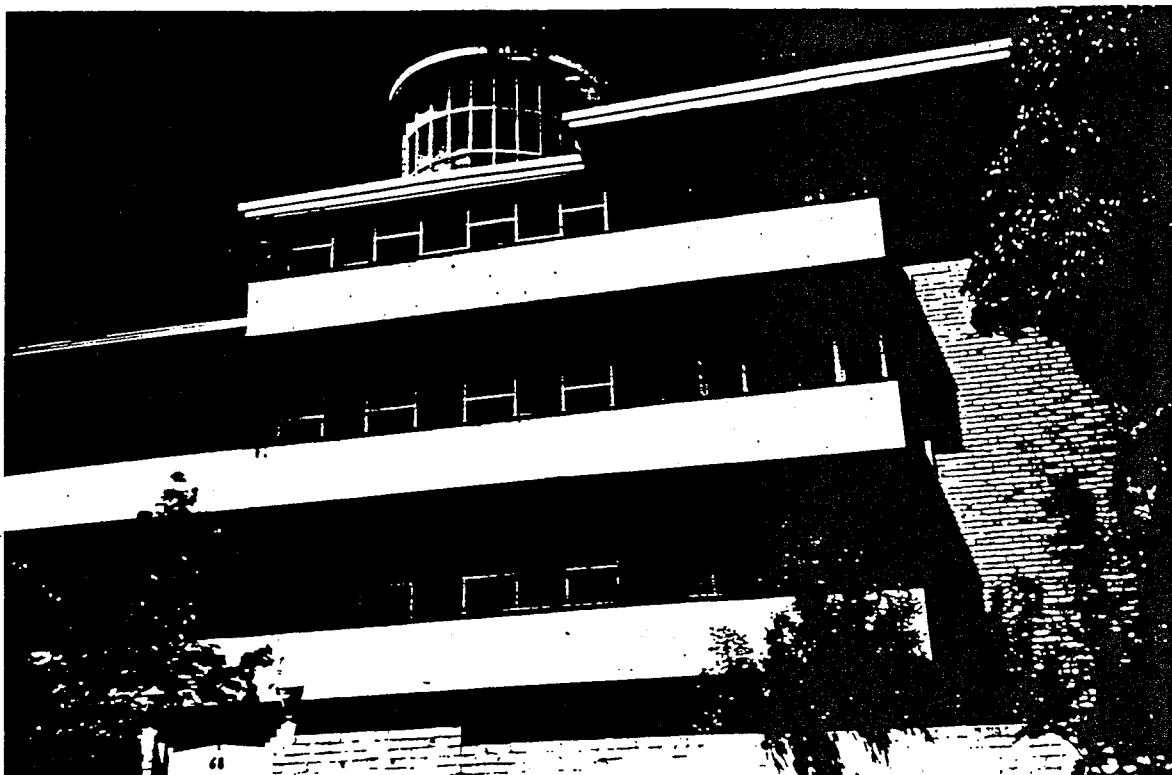
Real Property Annual, 1918, illustration.

Sawyer, Terry. 'Residential Flats in Melbourne', Research Report, University of Melbourne, 1982.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

Moonbria Flats 68 Mathoura Road, Toorak



History and Significance

This large block of flats designed during the Second World War period by the architect Roy Grounds for Mrs. A. Rutherford was completed in 1942. These flats were rated in that year as a block of twenty two-roomed brick flats. They were mainly occupied by servicemen and women. First tenants included Wayne Gerard Clarke, USA Red Cross Official; Lennox Jack Clementson and Andreas Phillips, airforce officer; Clifford Clark, naval officer; Nancy Swanson and Peg Forbes, both members of the Australian Women's Army Service (AWAS); and Mabel Miller, a WAAF officer.²⁶⁴ An MMBW drainage plan dated November 1941 shows the ground plan of the building.²⁶⁵

Grounds had completed the design for Quamby, in Glover Court, Toorak two years earlier, for which he was highly praised by architectural critics. Other work by Grounds at this time included the Clendon Flats in Clendon Road, Armadale.²⁶⁶

Like much of Grounds work, these flats are strongly based on geometric forms and have an overall horizontal emphasis. Strips of windows and smooth concrete balconies alternated with solid sections of cream brick and panelling. The roofs of the building appear to 'step up across the facade to a maximum of four stories'. The form of a central circular stairwell is a distinctive feature, maintaining the overall geometric theme.

264. Prahran Rate Book 1942-43 South Yarra Ward Nos. 3974-3994.

265. MMBW House Cover No. 23328.

266. Beiers, p.81-86.

Significance

Moonbria Flats are of state significance as a fine example of a large block of purpose-built flats designed by Roy Grounds using geometric forms. These flats have historical significance as a block of flats completed in the Second World War period and occupied then by servicemen and women.

Sources

Beiers, G. *Houses of Australia*, Sydney, 1948.

Hamann, Conrad, 'Grounds, Romberg and Boyd' in H. Tanner (Ed.), *Architects of Australia*, 1981.

MMBW House Cover No. 23328.

Prahran Rate Books, South Yarra Ward.

Sawyer, Terry, "Residential Flats in Melbourne" Research Report, University of Melbourne, 1982.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

Larnook, 519 Orrong Road, Armadale



History and Description

The mansion Larnook was built in 1881 for William H. Miller, son of Henry 'Money' Miller. It was rated in that year as a brick house of 20 rooms 'in progress', standing on three acres of land.²⁶⁷ It was one of five substantial mansions constructed between 1880 and 1888 for a group of prosperous Melbourne professional and businessmen in the block in Orrong Road between Dandenong Road and High Street. MMBW plans dated 1895 show these buildings in their prime located in splendid Victorian garden settings on large allotments.²⁶⁸ Only four of these mansions remain: Larnook; the former Lalbert (1880) built for Cornelius Job Ham, auctioneer and Melbourne City Councillor; Sebrot(c.1889) at 514 Orrong Road, the home of William Williams, merchant; and Redcourt(1888) at 506 Orrong Road built for Edward Yencken, merchant. The fifth mansion, Karbarook (now demolished) was the home from 1881 of the distinguished barrister and politician, Thomas a'Beckett, MLC.²⁶⁹

The four remaining mansions no longer stand in their Victorian gardens and their grounds have been drastically reduced by the subdivisions that created Karbarook, Larnook and Lalbert Crescents on the west side and Redcourt Avenue on the east side.²⁷⁰

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267. City of Prahran Rate Book 1881 No.4228 NAV 300 pounds.
268. MMBW drainage plan, Prahran, No.46, 1895.
269. National Trust of Australia (Vic.), Research File No. 1561; No.1562.
270. Compare 1895 and 1933 MMBW drainage plans.

The elegant Italianate mansion Larnook has a protruding polygonal bay and cast iron verandah, both of two storeys. Its verandah columns are paired and, together with fine lacework in the balustrade, valence and brackets, embellish the facade. Eaves are supported on closely spaced decorative consoles around the residence and the corners of the building are quoined. Windows at the upper level feature arched heads, those below exhibit a slight curve only. The northern end of the verandah has been infilled on both levels. The designer and architect are unknown.

Following an auction of the Larnook Estate in April 1984 the old mansion and adjacent red brick buildings at 517-519 Orrong Road and three brick buildings at 1,3,5 Karbarook Avenue standing on over an acre of land became the property of the King David School Ltd. of 117 Kooyong Road.²⁷¹

An inspection made at this time suggested that Larnook was intact externally but that the interior had been significantly altered.²⁷² A good view of Larnook is visible from Karbarook Avenue and the original gateway is intact in nearby Stawell Street.



Significance

Larnook has State significance for architectural reasons, as a good example of an 1880s mansion house of the pre-boom period in Melbourne. It is typical of early mansion houses on large allotments on elevated sites built for affluent business and professional men and their families, which gave a distinctive character to residential areas in Toorak, parts of South Yarra and Armadale.

271. 1984 Auction Plan, Copy held by National Trust.

272. David Bick. 'Significance of Larnook, 519 Orrong Road, Armadale,' 8 August 1984.

Sources

Bick, David, 'Significance of Larnook, 519 Orrong Road, Armadale,' 8 August 1984.

City of Prahran Rate Books. Windsor Ward.

Lewis, Miles, *Architectural Index Of Australia*, Univ. of Melbourne, 1990.

MMBW Drainage Plan. No.46 (1895).

National Trust of Australia (Vic.), File Nos. 1561, 1562.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

Trelowarren, 543 Orrong Road, Armadale



History & Description

In May 1876, the prominent Melbourne architect, George Raymond Johnson, called tenders for the erection of a villa residence for R. D. Reid, Esq.²⁷³ Johnson was noted for his designs for town halls, hotels, theatres, commercial buildings and houses in Melbourne and its suburbs from the 1860s to the 1880s.²⁷⁴

The following year, 1877, Robert D. Reid was rated as the owner/occupier of a brick house of ten rooms on four acres of land in Orrong Road (NAV 150 pounds).²⁷⁵ He also owned four acres of land with a four-roomed wooden house off High Street.²⁷⁶ By 1878, Reid was rated for the house on the site of 543 Orrong Road described as an eleven-roomed brick house on 8 acres.²⁷⁷ Later, in the 1880s, Reid's residence was described as a 12-roomed house.²⁷⁸

The house is a large Italianate villa with a projecting bay to one side of the facade and a slate roof with a balcony and verandah returning to the southern facade. Fine frieze work decorates the upper storey and lower bay windows and the cast iron verandah appears to be intact.

273. *Argus*, 10.5.1876.

274. Miles Lewis, *Australian Architectural Index*.

275. City of Prahran Rate Book 1877 vol.2, No.3775.

276. City of Prahran Rate Book 1876 vol.2, No.3524.

277. City of Prahran Rate Book 1878 vol.2 No.3723, NAV 200 pounds.

278. City of Prahran Rate Book 1885-86 vol.2 No.6006, NAV 180 pounds.

At the turn of the century, although Caroline Reid continued to live there, the property was owned by John J. Falconer, manager.²⁷⁹ An MMBW drainage plan shows the mansion house at this time, then known as Kilbryde, with an aviary and conservatory at the southern end of its extensive grounds and an orchard at the rear.²⁸⁰ A single storey rendered addition to the south of the building consists of a rendered facade with pediment form in the parapet wall.

Although the grounds are much reduced today, some unusual garden plantings survive which appear to date from the Victorian era. Evidence of a circular garden bed is visible in the lawn in front of the house and recent native plantings are clustered immediately in front of the building. A specimen of *Phytolacca dioica*, situated to the north of the house, is of state significance for its age and size, contributing to the streetscape, and forming a local landmark. In addition, another Victorian tree, a specimen of *Agathis robusta* survives.²⁸¹

By the 1950s the property listed as 39 Orrong Road was owned by the Victorian Government.²⁸²

Significance

This 1870s residence has state significance as an example of a surviving early Victorian mansion house designed by the important Victorian architect, George Johnson. It has state significance also, for the survival of a Victorian planting, a specimen of *Phytolacca dioica*.

Sources

Argus, 10.5.1876, p.3

City of Prahran Rate Books, Windsor Ward.

City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

Lewis, M., *Australian Architectural Index*, 1990.

MMBW Detail Plan and House Cover No.1000.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

279. City of Prahran Rate Book 1900-1901 Windsor Ward No.8165.

280. MMBW Detail Plan No.1000.

281. City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

282. MMBW House Cover No.1000.

558 Orrong Road, Prahran



History and Description

Charles Dukes, builder, was the first owner and occupier, and most probably the builder, of this turn-of-the century brick house. Constructed between 1899 and 1900, the house had 8 rooms when completed.²⁸³ Dukes also owned an adjoining allotment of the same size²⁸⁴ A 1901-2 MMBW drainage plan shows the house as it was during Duke's ownership. Its front verandah faces Orrong Road and there are large stables on Duke's adjoining allotment.²⁸⁵

Dukes house, formerly listed at 44 Orrong Road, was extended at the rear, with alterations to its front and sides during the First World War period, for a new owner, E. Bryant.²⁸⁶ There were further additions more recently in the 1970s and 1980s when the property, owned by the Edward Bryant Estate, was converted into a guest house and then to a special accommodation house. In the 1970s, a sunroom and timber frame detached sleepout, (typical of the period) were added. The property was described at this time as containing 28 beds and was a 'large rambling Rest Home established in a spacious garden'. In 1984, \$3,800 was spent on alterations needed to convert the building into a Special Accommodation house. The owners of this time were E. L. Bryant and Ian Warner, who were related.²⁸⁷

283. Prahran Rate Book 1899-1900 Windsor Ward No. 8154; 1900-1901 Windsor Ward No. 8155.

284. Prahran Rate Book 1900-1901 No. 8156.

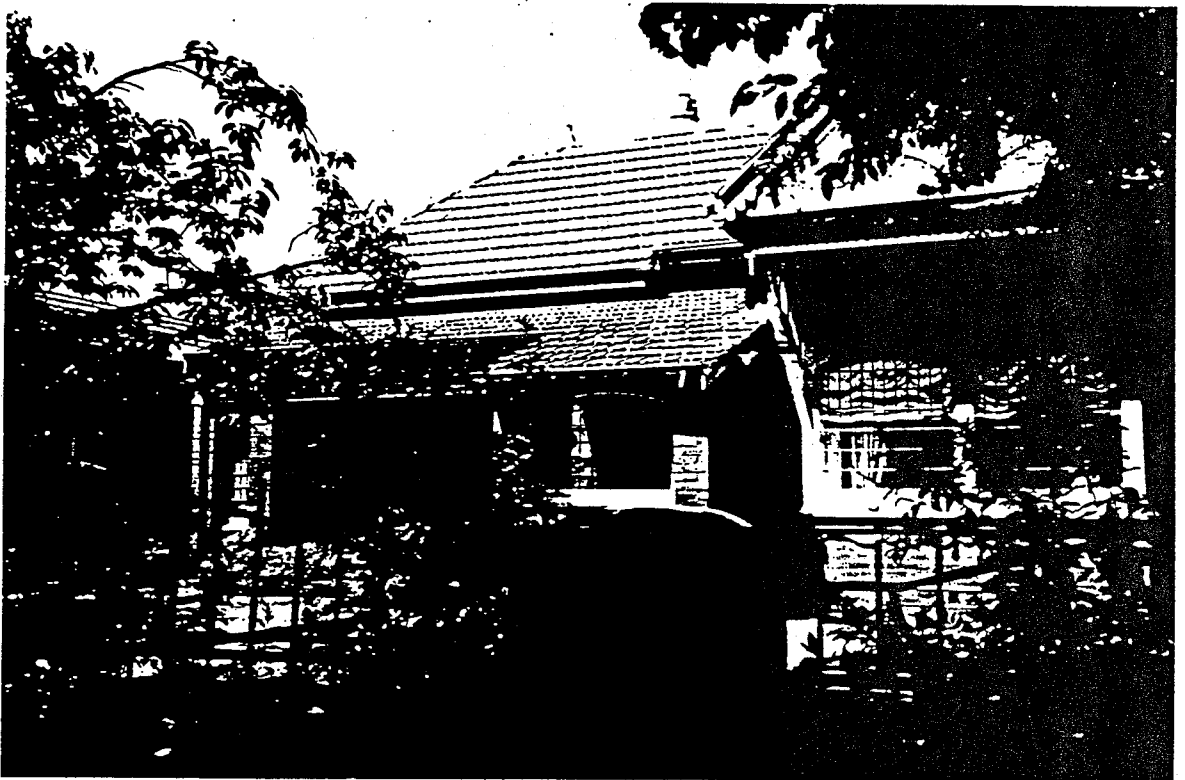
285. MMBW House Cover No. 27595.

286. MMBW House Cover No. 27595.

287. City of Prahran Valuers records, Windsor Ward Book 6W.

This Edwardian villa with fine Queen Anne detailing and complementary fence is a striking example of an intact turn-of-the-century residence. The house has low hipped roof with Marseilles pattern roof tiles and ridge decoration. Verandahs on two sides are punctuated by projecting bays containing leadlight boxed windows. The facade features the original bay window complete with decorated flying gable. The original front verandah is supported by square red brick columns with valence matching the later side verandah. On the northern side an unusual later addition has Gothic form and proportions with decorative wood infill and gable ornament matching the front gable. From the street, the building appears intact to its 1900 design with the additional wing dating from 1918 providing views over the open garden to the south.

The house is unusual compared to larger examples in the area of a similar date and more typical Queen Anne style, such as 33 Lansell Road, Toorak; Aramae, 300 Glenferrie Road, Malvern, and is more typical of Edwardian designs such as Sydney Wilson's Ilfracombe, 15 Forster Avenue, Malvern.²⁸⁸



Significance

This turn-of-the-century brick house has regional architectural significance as an outstanding example of Queen Anne domestic architecture in Melbourne with elaborate timber detailing and fenestration and complementary garden setting. It is typical of the many private residences within the City of Prahran converted to other uses during the post-Second World War period. The property has aesthetic significance for its pleasing aspect as viewed from the street, presenting a harmony of form and styles between the building, fence and garden elements.

288. N. Lewis and R. Aitken, pp.121, 131.



Sources

City of Prahran Rate Books, Windsor Ward.

City of Prahran Valuers Records, Windsor Ward.

Nigel Lewis and Richard Aitken, *City of Malvern Heritage Study*, 1992.

MMBW House Cover No. 27595.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this building be ranked A2 for the following reasons:

- The building has regional architectural significance as a good example of a substantial villa designed in the Queen Anne style, with successive additions demonstrating different interpretations of that style and containing fine decorative details. The gabled addition on the northern side is unusual and of architectural interest.
- The property has at least regional design significance demonstrating a phase of residential development in this area around the turn of the century, with important fence and garden elements remaining intact, complimenting the house and providing a rare example of this degree of harmony between the early components of the property.
- The building has at least local historical significance for its associations with the first owner/occupier and possibly designer, Charles Dukes, builder.

Further research into the historical associations with this property is desirable.

Information about the builder, and possibly architect, of this building would be valuable for use in comparative analysis in architectural research. Historical details

regarding the Bryant family in particular would be useful in determining the early use of this residence after the 1918 conversions. This information would also be useful in identifying the purpose of the unusual gabled addition to the north side of the house.

St. Albans Anglican Church and Hall, 583 Orrong Road, Armadale



History and Description

This brick suburban church was built on the corner of Orrong Road and Wynnstay Avenue in 1898-99 from the designs of the architects, Inskip and Butler.²⁸⁹ It was opened on St. Albans Day, 17 June 1899.²⁹⁰ A church hall was shown on the site by 1901 and was most probably designed by the same architects.²⁹¹ Additions made to St. Albans in 1935 were designed by W. R. Butler. The builder was Harry Roberts.²⁹²

The Church building has been described as 'Victoria's first church in the Arts and Crafts mode and perhaps the first really up to date church built in the colony for thirty years'.²⁹³ The Arts and Crafts influence is exemplified in the use of polychrome brickwork plus coloured render in the upper clerestory. The triple arched windows in each bay section are simple in design with diamond leadlight.

The building says Prof. Lewis, is notable for its striking facade incorporating a large five-light lancet window, flanking octagonal turrets and arch, with brickwork in diaper pattern. The roof ridge remains unbroken from east to west and has a distinctive brick interior. It is notable for the stained glass in its east window, for its

289. *BEMJ*, 30 July 1898, p.4).

290. Jill McDougall, *Church Community & Change*, p.40.

291. MMBW House Cover No. 22919.

292. Contract drawing W. R. Butler, Additions St. Alban's Church, Armadale, Picture Collection, SLV.

293. Miles Lewis (ed.), *Victorian Churches*, p. 80.

striking diaper patterned brick interior, and the church's joinery, furniture and fittings including choir stalls, reredos, wrought iron communion rails and encaustic tiles in the chancel.²⁹⁴

An addition to the nave on the northern side has an imitation brick wall. On the southern side, the nave has been widened in additions which were executed at the same time as the tower. These alterations are sympathetic to the original design and are the work of Winstan Widdows whose other ecclesiastical designs at this time include the former Methodist church in Sale (now occupied by the Assembly of God Church) which is an innovative Modern design.

To the rear of the church, the church hall is a simple weatherboard building with broad gabled roof and pairs of pointed arched windows. A skillion addition is attached to the vestry at the rear.

In December 1986 there were alterations to the Church Hall costing £15,000.²⁹⁵ Today, the main body of the church is leased to a community theatre (Abbey Theatre Co.) and the congregation now gathers in the vestry which has been converted into a modern worship area.²⁹⁶



Significance

This 1898-99 brick town church has architectural significance as Victoria's first church in the Arts and Crafts made designed by the architects Inskip and Butler, who specialised in this style. It is notable for the stained glass in its east window, for its striking diaper patterned brick interior, and the church's joinery, furniture and fittings

294. Lewis, p.80.

295. City of Prahran Valuer's records, Prahran Ward Book 16P.

296. McDougall, p. 41.

including choir stalls, reredos, wrought iron communion rails and encaustic tiles in the chancel.



Sources

Building, Engineering and Mining Journal (BEMJ) 30 July, 1898.

City of Prahran Valuer's records, Prahran Ward.

Contract drawings W. R. Butler, Picture Collection, SLV.

Lewis, Miles (ed.), *Victorian Churches*, 1992.

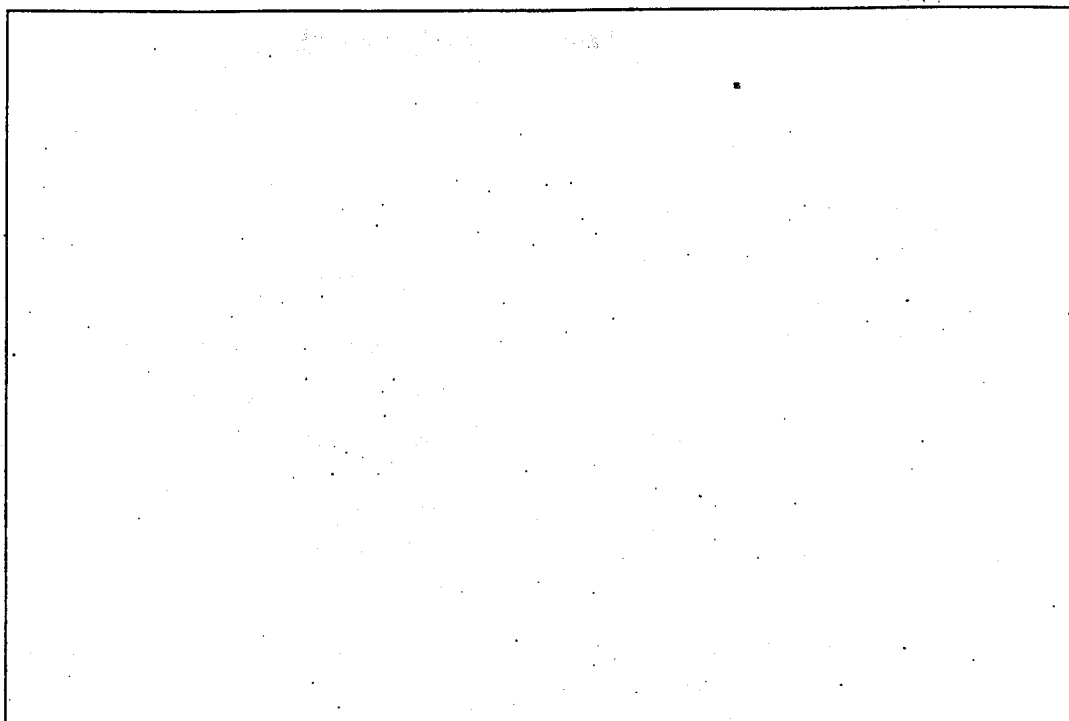
McDougall, Jill, *Church, Community and Change*, Religion in Prahran 1836-1984, 1985.

MMBW House Cover. No. 22919.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

Miegunyah, 641 Orrong Road, Toorak



[No Photo - Property not visible from street.]

History and Description

Some portions of the mansion Miegunyah may date from the 1850s during the ownership of a six-roomed house on the site by the squatter, John Goodman. An early 1850s map of the area shows a main building facing Orrong road with outbuildings.²⁹⁷ Elements of Goodman's garden, described in 1856, may also survive.²⁹⁸ There may also be some surviving fabric from the 1880s and 1890s when J. J. Smart was owner of the house.²⁹⁹ An 1896 drainage plan shows the house at this time.³⁰⁰ An architectural assessment of the building made in 1986 by Dr Miles Lewis, describes aspects of the north side of the house such as the three sided bay (single storey) and triangular vent in the roof which date from the ownership prior to Grimwade, designed by an unknown architect.³⁰¹

However, the major part of the present structure appears to date from the period 1910 to 1973 when Sir Russell and Lady Grimwade owned and occupied the property.³⁰² In the early years of the Grimwade ownership, the building was extended on the north-west corner, possibly designed by M. Shields, a little known architect, who lodged a drainage plan for stable alterations in 1910. However, according to Dr Lewis, Klingender and Alsop may also have been the architects, as

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- 297. James Kearney Map of Melbourne and its Suburbs, 1855; National Trust File No. 3689.
 - 298. J. Sinclair, 'Beauties of Victoria in 1856'.
 - 299. National Trust File No. 3689.
 - 300. MMBW Detail Plan No. 44.
 - 301. M. Lewis 'Miegunyah, 641 Orrong Road' for Prahran Council, 1986.
 - 302. J. R. Poynter, *Russell Grimwade*.

described in the *Real Property Annual* of 1914.³⁰³ The additions described as 'white stucco or roughcast with vertical slabs of imitation half-timbering in the gables' are considered to be consistent with the work of Alsop at this time, and although also 'trademarks' of Harold Desbrowe Annear, there is no evidence that this prominent architect worked on this site at this early date.³⁰⁴ A 1913 photograph shows Miegunyah still as a single storey building with a curving drive.³⁰⁵ In 1919-20, the old timber stable and coach-house noted in 1896 were converted into two flats from the designs of the architects Philip B. Hudson and Wardrop.³⁰⁶ This firm gained prominence as designers of the Shrine of Remembrance.³⁰⁷

Major changes were made to Miegunyah for the Grimwades in 1920-21 and 1933-34. The 1920s changes were most probably designed by H. Desbrowe Annear.³⁰⁸ The alterations from this 1920 period have been described by Dr. M. Lewis as:

Rooms of rather cubical character...thrust northward from the north-west corner of the house. The roof was raised to become an enveloping hipped shape, apparently providing space for attic rooms along the south. The remodelling at the north-west corner continued down the west front to the south-west corner....and on the south front the little entrance porch was replaced by the grand cantilevered porte cochere....³⁰⁹

The chimneys protruding from the complex roof form are typical Desbrowe-Annear designs. Other typical elements which have been identified in the building include the windows which rise up into the wall cavity and his patent one-slab door a bathroom.³¹⁰ Desbrowe-Annear also designed 'Westerfield' for Grimwade at Frankston, which is a contributing factor in the association of this architect with Miegunyah.³¹¹ Desbrowe-Annear built at least two other houses on Orrong Road around the 1920s, Broceliande at 224 and the house at 203 Orrong Road.³¹²

The 1930s alterations and additions were from the designs of the architects Stephenson and Meldrum.³¹³ The designs by this well-known architectural partnership altered many of the banked windows from the 1920-21 additions in the north-west section of the house.³¹⁴ The original structure was heightened by an additional storey, the garden facade made more imposing by two massive columns stretching from terrace to roof, and on the southern side a new entrance opened onto a large panelled hall, two storeys high, with a wide gallery at the east end.³¹⁵

303. M. Lewis, p.17.

304. M. Lewis, p.18.

305. Poynter, p. 242.

306. Grimwade Papers, Melb. University Archives.

307. M. Lewis, p.18.

308. Grimwade Papers; M. Lewis, p.18.

309. M. Lewis, p.19.

310. M. Lewis, p.20.

311. M. Lewis, p.20.

312. Woodfall, p.224.

313. Grimwade Papers.

314. M. Lewis, p.19.

315. Grimwade Papers. Include Stephenson and Meldrum drawings; MMBW House Cover No. 218661.

The Miegunyah garden continued to be of great importance during the Grimwade ownership. Both Edna Walling and Ellis Stones are thought to have been involved at this time.³¹⁶ The garden was dominated by a large sweeping lawn. Three distinctive sections containing a box-hedged rose garden, birch copse and native arboretum formed part of its composition. The arboretum reflected Sir Russell's interest and research into the Eucalyptus genus. The rose garden is thought to be a copy of an unknown garden in England.³¹⁷

Sir William Russell Grimwade (1879-1955), industrialist, inventor, naturalist and benefactor, was the youngest son of F. S. Grimwade, founder with Alfred Felton of Felton and Grimwade, a major pharmaceutical company. By the time of Grimwade's death, the family firms had grown into such giants as Drug Houses of Australia, Commonwealth Industrial Gases and Australian Consolidated Industries. Russell Grimwade was a devoted natural, conservationist and craftsman in wood. Among his many benefactions was the gift in 1917 of the Grimwade family house to Melbourne Grammar School, and the presentation of Captain Cook's Cottage to the people of Victoria as a Centenary gift.³¹⁸

After Grimwade's death in 1955 and Lady Grimwade's in 1973, Miegunyah was bequeathed to the University of Melbourne.³¹⁹ It has since been sold and subdivided.

Significance

Miegunyah has state significance as a twentieth century Toorak mansion house which has retained its garden settings, and contains one of the few remaining large private gardens in Melbourne. Its associations with Sir Russell Grimwade, industrialist, naturalist and benefactor, who was responsible for major changes made to the house in the 1920s and 1930s, and made it his home from 1910 until his death in 1955, contribute to the property's historical importance. The additions, probably by Harold Desbrowe-Annear, are of architectural significance as important examples of his work, and are comparable to his work at Frankston for the same client. The architectural additions and alterations are of architectural importance also, particularly in relation to the modifications to Desbrowe-Annear's work. Further investigation of the physical fabric of the building is desirable, giving the property research significance. The grounds are also of historical and aesthetic significance as they are believed to contain landscaping features by Edna Walling and Ellis Stones and remain one of the largest gardens in the area, with extensive canopy visible from the roadway.

Sources

Australian Dictionary of Biography.

City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study.*

316. Peter Watts, *Historic Gardens of Victoria*; City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study.*

317. Grimwade papers.

318. J. R. Poynter, *Russell Grimwade*; *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Vol. 6.

319. Grimwade papers.

Grimwade Papers, Melbourne University Archives.

Lewis, M., 'Miegunyah, 641 Orrong Road' for Prahran Council, 1986

MMBW Detail Plan No. 44; House Cover No. 28661.

National Trust File, No. 3689.

Historic Buildings Council File, No. 605146P.

Poynter, J. R., *Russell Grimwade*, 1967.

Real Property Annual, 1914.

Sinclair, J., 'Beauties of Victoria in 1856', LaTrobe Library Manuscripts.

Watts, Peter, *Historic Gardens of Victoria*.

Woodfall, G., 'Harold Desbrowe-Annear: 1866-1933' in *Architecture in Australia*, February 1967.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

762 Orrong Road, Toorak



History and Description

This 10-roomed 2-storey Spanish Mission style mansion was designed in 1924 by the architects Irwin and Stevenson for Mrs. Ethel M. Larking.³²⁰ It was listed previously as 234 Orrong Road³²¹ The designing architects were well-known in the inter-war period for their designs of hospitals, other public buildings and residences throughout Melbourne and its suburbs.³²² The style they adopted for the Orrong Road building, Spanish Mission, was derived from the American south-west coast and, to a lesser extent, from Spain and the Mediterranean. However, most suburban examples were less grand than this house and were often no more than a standard double fronted bungalow with a rendered surface and an arched loggia instead of a verandah or porch.³²³

The two storey residence is located on raised foundations with northern aspect addressing Orrong Road and the facade shaded by a large oak. Terracotta Cordova roof tiles contrast with the white rendered walls and the blue painted detailing. A sloping driveway and steps lead to the cubic form of the entrance porch and balcony containing two round arches with typical Spanish Mission jamb frieze and honeycomb tracery in the highlight. The arches are repeated in the side verandah to the rear of the house. The windows are simple multi-paned casements complete with folding shutters. The facade closest to the street has double doors opening out onto a small balcony which is evocative of Mediterranean architecture. The interior was described

320. 15 December 1924, p.16.

321. Prahran Valuers records, Toorak Ward Book 14T.

322. Miles Lewis, *Australian Architectural Index*.

323. Bryce Raworth, *Our Inter-War Houses*, pp. 16-17.

recently as mainly English Club style, however details such as the black and white tiled floor and jarrah floorboards in the dance room suggest typical Spanish features.³²⁴ Overall, this residence and its garden setting create a superb example of the colourful and romantic fascination with Spanish Mission architecture which reflects the influence of the Arts and Crafts movement in domestic architecture and also the desire to imitate the glamour of American stylistic trends in the 1920s.

Mrs. Larking died in December 1952, when the property was transferred to Shirley Isabel Blackwell, who also owned a 14-roomed brick house in Orrong Road.³²⁵

An article published in *The Age* of 20 November 1992 at the time of an auction of the property told a more romantic story, which it has been impossible to verify despite searches of rate books, directories and other records. This writer claimed that the house originally belonged to a Judge one of whose daughters married the artist, Sir Russell Drysdale. According to this account, the Judge and his family lived in the house until the 1950s. Elizabeth Stephen was Drysdale's first wife³²⁶ but no mention has been found of the Stephen family owners of the property in the records checked. The article also claimed that the 1924 house designed by Irwin and Stevenson was one of the earliest in Melbourne using the Spanish Mission style.

The garden is regarded as of importance for a specimen of *Quercus robur*, which is thought to survive from an earlier 19th century garden.³²⁷

Significance

This 2-storey 1924 Spanish Mission residence, designed by the architects Irwin and Stevenson, has state architectural significance as a luxurious example of the use of the work of this firm and of the residential application of this style which became popular in Melbourne during the inter-war period. The house has design significance illustrating the variety of building styles found within the City of Prahran. The oak tree in front of the house possibly dates from an earlier period and contributes to the setting.

Sources

Age, 20 November, 1992.

Australian Home Beautiful (AHB), 15 December 1924, p.16.

City of Prahran Rate Books, Toorak Ward.

City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

City of Prahran Valuers records, Toorak Ward.

Lewis, Miles, *Australian Architectural Index*, Univ. of Melb., 1990.

MMBW House Cover No. 60730.

Raworth, Bryce, *Our Inter-War Houses*, 1991.

324. *The Age*, 20 Nov 92.

325. Prahran Rate Book 1951-52 Toorak Ward Nos. 2338, 2341.

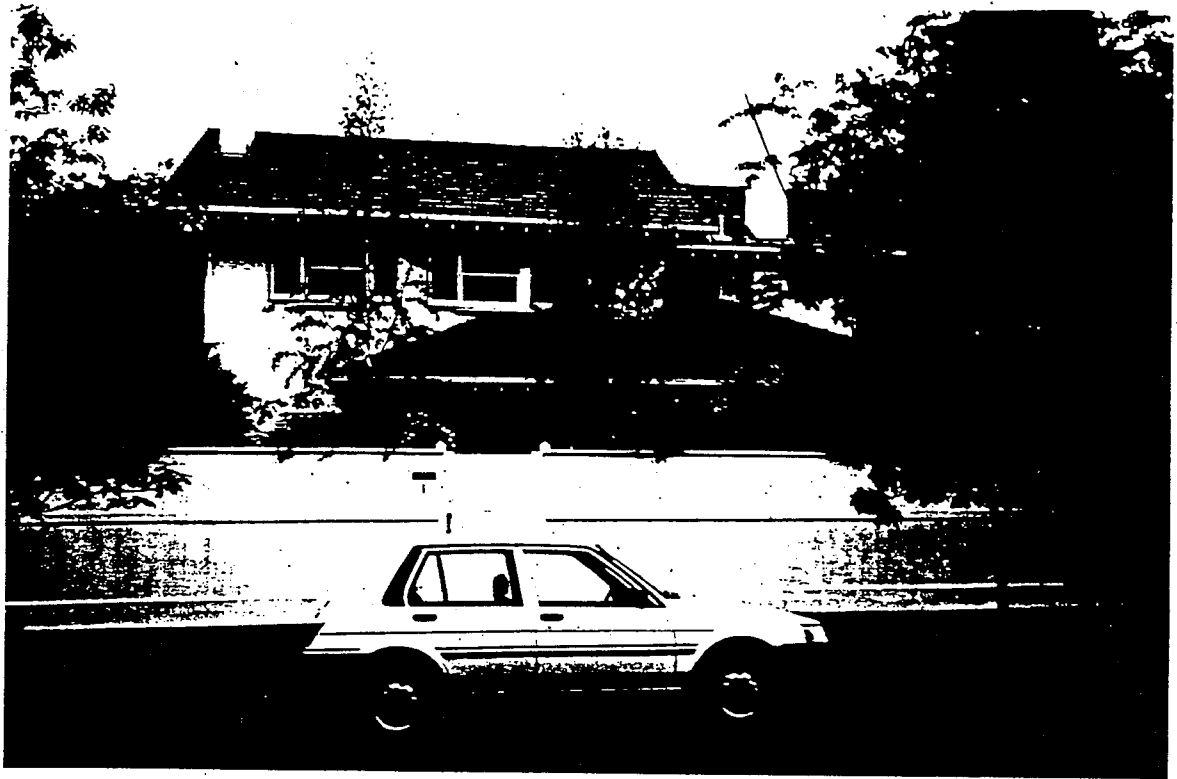
326. Dulton, *Russell Drysdale*, p. 18.

327. City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

1 Ottawa Road, Toorak



History and Description

This house was among the earliest work of the architect Marcus William Martin (1893-1981), one of Victoria's most prolific domestic architects during the inter-war period. The Ottawa Road house was one of two houses designed by Martin in 1921 for himself and his father, Marcus Dumas Martin, bank manager. Martin's father's Ottawa Road house and his own house in Toorak Avenue, Kooyong, were two-storeyed brick residences. Both featured gabled roofs, stained timber within the gable ends, exposed rafter ends under the eaves, and an arched porch entrance. The roofs were tiled and the walls bagged with stucco. The arched porches reflected the bungalow style popular at this time. The upper floor windows flanked by wooden shutters were elements which continued to appear in Martin's houses throughout his career. Martin's father's house had a rough brick and timber pergola to one side.³²⁸ By the late 1920s the architect was living in a new house in Glyndebourne Avenue, Malvern, but his father continued to live in Ottawa Road.³²⁹

Marcus William Martin was born in Launceston, the only son of Marcus Dumas Martin and his wife, Charlotte Helen. He had two sisters, Phyllis Helen and Jean Dumas Martin. The family settled in Melbourne in 1908. After attending Melbourne Grammar School, Martin William served his articles with the architects, A. and K. Henderson, who specialised in designs for shops, banks and warehouses. Martin served in the AIF in the First World War between 1915 and 1919, when he was invalided home after he was wounded by shrapnel in Flanders. He then entered into a

328. Raworth, Bryce, 'Marcus Martin: A Survey of his Life and Work'. Investigation Project, Univ. of Melbourne, 1986, vol.I.

329. Sands and McDougall's Directories.

partnership with Rodney Alsop and in January 1921 the firm of A. and K. Henderson, Alsop and Martin was established.³³⁰ The partnership of Alsop and Martin produced a number of houses in the wealthy inner suburbs of Toorak, South Yarra and Malvern. Another house in Lascelles Avenue, built for the Leviny family, is another example of Martin's work, moving away from the bungalow form into the Spanish Mission genre.³³¹

The Ottawa Road house was built on an allotment owned in 1920-1921 by Martin's mother. A ten-roomed brick house was rated for the first time in 1922, owned and occupied by Marcus D. Martin, gentleman.³³² The house demonstrates a blend of Californian Bungalow and Spanish Mission styles. The main roof mass consists of a two storey gable roof in two tiers with a hip roof section projecting above the central single storey porch. The painted rendered wall finish, shutters and the arched entrance evoke a Mediterranean architecture, while the exposed rafters in the eaves and the terracotta tiled gables and tall chimneys are typical bungalow features.

In 1924 Martin established his own practice but in 1926 entered a new partnership with Walter Butler and his nephew, Austin Richard Butler. The Butlers were related by marriage to Martin's friend and previous partner, Rodney Alsop. This firm specialised in commercial and residential work. By 1929, it was noted that Martin had been associated with designs for residences, flats, banking offices, factories and other commercial work.³³³ Martin was later in partnership with Horace J. Tribe and after the Second World War with S. J. Dorling.³³⁴

Martin designed no fewer than seventeen houses in Domain Road and flanking sites between 1920 and 1950. He was most famous for his elegant white (when all around him were cream) houses. His townhouses were characterised by their elegance. His two largest were the Sleigh house in Wallace Avenue and the Armstrong house in Linlithgow Road.³³⁵ Martin spent his last years at a house he designed and built in Derham Place in 1957.³³⁶

Significance

This building has state significance as one of two early houses designed in 1921 for himself and his father by Marcus W. Martin (1892-1981), one of Victoria's most prolific domestic architects during the inter-war period. It was designed as the home of Martin's father Marcus Dumas Martin, bank manager. Marcus W. Martin was notable for his elegant white townhouses built in the wealthy inner suburbs of Toorak, South Yarra and Malvern, and this building has significance as a resource for future research into Martin's work.

330. Raworth, Bryce, 'Marcus Martin: A Survey of his Life and Work'.

331. Bryce Raworth, 'Marcus Martin: a Survey of his Life and Work,' p.19.

332. City of Prahran Rate book 1920-21 Toorak Ward No. 1310; Rate book 1922-23 Toorak Ward No. 1604, NAV £189.

333. Raworth, Bryce, 'Marcus Martin: A Survey of his Life and Work'.

334. *Age*, 15 Dec.1981, p.10, Marcus Martin obituary.

335. Cuffley, Peter. *Australian Houses of the '20s and '30s*, 1989, p.84. Illustrations from article in *The Australian Home Beautiful*, July 1933.

336. Bryce Raworth, *pers. comm.*

Sources

Age, 15 December 1981, p.10., Marcus Martin obituary.

City of Prahran Rate books and Valuer's records.

Cuffley, Peter, *Australian Houses of the '20s & '30s*, Five Mile Press, Melbourne, 1989.

John Curtis Pty. Ltd., *Toorak Residential Character Study*, City of Prahran, South Yarra, November 1991.

Lewis, Miles, *Architectural Index of Australia*, University of Melbourne, 1990.

Marcus Martin Collection, Architecture School, University of Melbourne on loan to State Library of Victoria. (Includes photo and working drawings of 1 Ottawa Road, Toorak, dated 1921.)

MMBW Property Sewerage Plan, 1 Ottawa Road, Toorak. (Dated 1978-1988.)

Raworth, Bryce, 'Marcus Martin: A Survey of his life and work', Investigation Project, University of Melbourne, 1986, 2 vols.

Sands and McDougall Directories.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

Former Congregational Church, 66-72 Peel Street, Windsor



History and Description

This former church building was constructed in 1858 as the second United Methodist Free Church in the Melbourne Circuit. The designing architect is unknown.³³⁷ An earlier galvanised iron building on the site was originally owned by the Independent (or Congregational) church, who sold it to the United Free Methodists. From about 1866, however, the majority of the congregation in the 1858 building, together with the Rev. Middleton, joined the Congregational Church.³³⁸

The only known surviving United Free Methodist Church in Victoria, this building has a pillastered stuccoed facade distinguished by the use of Greek Revival parapet

337. Miles Lewis (ed.), *Victorian Churches*, p.80.

338. Jill McDougall, *Church, Community and Change*, p.18.

block composition in place of the more usual pediment. The facade is largely intact, but the Georgian windows have been replaced. The porch may date from the period when the Congregationalists took over the building.³³⁹

In 1977, the Peel Street Church became part of the Uniting Church with St. Georges (ex-Presbyterian) in Chapel Street and the Hotham Street Church (ex-Methodist) to form the East St. Kilda Parish. The final service in the Peel Street Church was held in December 1979. The former Church building was sold by auction in May 1980 and has since been converted into a private residence. The original ceiling has been restored, the roof replaced, and mezzanine added at the rear.³⁴⁰

Significance

This former 1858 Church has state historical significance as the only known surviving United Methodist Free Church in Victoria. It has architectural significance as a very early church in the district, with distinctive features including the Greek Revival parapet and round arched windows. The architectural integrity of the church has been reduced due to alterations to the windows (formerly Georgian) and additions to the rear and probable internal alterations relating to its conversions to residential use.

Sources

Lewis, Miles, (ed.), *Victorian Churches*, 1991.

McDougall, Jill, *Church, Community and Change*. Religion in Prahran 1836-1984, 1985.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

339. Miles Lewis, p. 80.

340. Jill McDougall, p.18.

14 St. Georges Road, Toorak



History and Description

This 15-roomed brick house was built about 1930 for Sidney W. Gullett, engineer, and was described then as a 12-roomed brick house.³⁴¹ It was designed by the architect, A. J. Ainslie.³⁴² A. J. Ainslie was formerly employed by Oakden and Ballantyne, architects and was elected as an Associate of the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects in May 1920.³⁴³

This Spanish Mission two storey residence appears from the front as a large, asymmetrical design with a six-arched loggia supporting the balcony which adjoins an octagonal projecting bay. The terracotta Cordova tiles contrast with the stark white rendered walls with additional Spanish style features including the 'rafters' projecting above the arches and lanterns on the balcony. The upper storey windows are complete with shutters while the verandah arches and one ground floor window are decorated with wrought iron work complimenting the large front gates. Overall, the design represents a restrained application of the Spanish Mission idiom in domestic architecture in Melbourne in the inter-war years. This style developed alongside other Revivalist styles of the period, such as the English Cottage and Neo-Georgian, and had a particular impact upon the development of Modernism in Melbourne.

'It was an architecture at once complementary to and distinct from the Neo-Georgian and Colonial; it echoed their proto-modern concern for austerity in ornament, for the concentration of ornamental detail about openings and wall

341. Prahran Rate Books 1929-30 Toorak Ward No. 1631; 1930-31 Toorak Ward No. 1674.

342. *RVIA Journal*, Nov. 1930 p.ii; *AHB*, June 1931, pp.36-41.

343. *Building*, September 1911, pp.80-83; *RVIA Journal*, November 1922, p.135).

edges, but at the same time made an obvious stand for an architecture, which could boast the merit of climatic stability as well as aesthetic and romantic sensibility'.³⁴⁴

It has been remarked that 'the impact of Spanish/Mediterranean idioms on the Melbourne scene should not be measured by the earliest or best examples' because of the wider impact of this genre in relation to the increasing acceptance of the modern aesthetic.³⁴⁵ Number 14 St Georges Road can be interpreted as illustrating this transition, in its restrained design, with classical balance of forms. It is comparable to the more flamboyant examples of the style by Marcus Martin; Broome, Glyndeburne Avenue, Toorak (1925); 672 Orrong Road, Toorak by Irwin and Stevenson (1925) and the Werner House, 14 Glen Road, Toorak by architects Barlow and Hawkins. Another example of Ainslie's work in this style is the portico additions to a villa at Essendon.³⁴⁶

In the rear garden a specimen of *Carpinus betulis*, commonly known as European Hornbeam, is regarded as of state significance for its size, age and form.³⁴⁷ In 1978, the house sold for \$380,000, which was believed to be 'the largest sale price for a house on the north side of Toorak Road for a house bought for owner/occupier'.³⁴⁸ It was purchased by Lewis Zimmerman. Later, at an auction in June 1991, the property was described as an 'outstanding residence', which had been restored by the architects, Rosenthal, Mackay and Muncckton. The article described the house as 'among the finest of its kind in Melbourne'.³⁴⁹

Significance

This 15-roomed brick residence has regional design significance as an example of an inter-war Toorak residence in a complementary garden setting, demonstrating the popularity of the Spanish Mission style with wealthy residents and the diversity of styles generally in this area during the inter-war years. It has high architectural significance as an example of this style, representing the Romantic evocation of Mediterranean architecture and the increasing acceptance of the modern aesthetic. It has regional historical significance for its associations with the Gullett family. A specimen of *Carpinus betulis* in the rear garden is considered to be of state significance for its size, age and form and as a rare example of this tree species.

Sources

Australian Home Builder, June 1931.

Building, September, 1911, pp.80, 83.

City of Prahran Rate Books, Toorak Ward.

City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

City of Prahran Valuers Records, Toorak Ward.

344. B. Raworth, p.71.

345. B. Raworth, p.92.

346. B. Raworth, pp.76-85.

347. City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

348. City of Prahran Valuers records, Toorak Ward, Book T17.

349. City of Prahran Valuers records, Toorak Ward, Book T17.

John Curtis Pty. Ltd., *Toorak Residential Character Study*, City of Prahran, 1991.
RVIA Journal, November 1922, p.135.

Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this building be ranked at least A2 for the following reasons:

- The property is of regional historical importance for its association with the Gullet family.
- The building has regional architectural significance as an example of a stately Spanish Mission style residence, demonstrating the diversity of styles in the Toorak area in the 1920s and 1930s. It is of interest as an example of the work of A. J. Ainslie, who worked at that time for the well-known architectural firm Oakden and Ballantyne who produced designs for several houses in the Prahran district.
- A specimen of *Carpinus betulis* in the rear garden has state significance for its rarity, size, age and form.

17 St Georges Road, Toorak



History & Description

Mrs Margaret Hunter was the first owner of the large fifteen-roomed two-storey brick residence constructed at 17 St. Georges Road (formerly listed as 9) in 1936.³⁵⁰ It was designed by the Melbourne architects, Hughes and Orme,³⁵¹ who are noted for their domestic work around this time.³⁵²

The St Georges Road residence replaced an earlier sixteen-roomed house on the site, known as Blair, and built in 1902 for Mrs Hunter from the designs of the architects Hyndman and Bates.³⁵³ When the earlier house was demolished not even the sanitary fittings were retained. Old stables and a cow bail at the rear of the property were also demolished. The MMBW House Cover No 30275 contains a floor plan of an earlier demolished house and later 1936 residence.

The new residence set well back on the block had a large tennis court near the site of the old stables.³⁵⁴ An illustration of the new house, a perspective sketch, appeared in a contemporary journal.³⁵⁵

The house, with straight tree-lined drive leading directly to the entrance, has a large two storey facade with Georgian revival details and an attic storey. Built in exposed orange brick rather than the rendered finish often associated with this style, the

350. City of Prahran Rate Book 1935-36, Toorak Ward No.1929.

351. MMBW House Cover No.30275.

352. Miles Lewis, *Australian Architectural Index*.

353. MMBW House Cover No.30275.

354. MMBW House Cover No.30275.

355. *R/VAJ*, Nov. 1936 p.168.

facade is similar to that of the residence designed by Robert Bell Hamilton in the early 1930s for Major and Mrs Landale of Toorak.³⁵⁶ Semicircular steps are another Georgian motif that appear in the MMBW plan.

In 1939 the property passed into the hands of Hilda Mabel Stevenson³⁵⁷ who owned it still in the early 1950s.³⁵⁸

Significance

This 1936 brick residence with its tree-lined drive has state significance as an example of the substantial, (often architect-designed) homes constructed on large allotments for affluent Toorak residents during the inter-war period. Built in the Georgian revival style, it is a fine example of the domestic work of the architects Hughes and Orme.

Sources

City of Prahran Rate Books, Toorak Ward.

Cuffley, P., *Australian Houses of the '20s and '30s*, Five Mile Press, Melbourne, 1989.

Lewis, Miles, *Australian Architectural Index*, Univ. of Melbourne, 1990.

MMBW House Cover No.30275.

Analysis & Recommendations

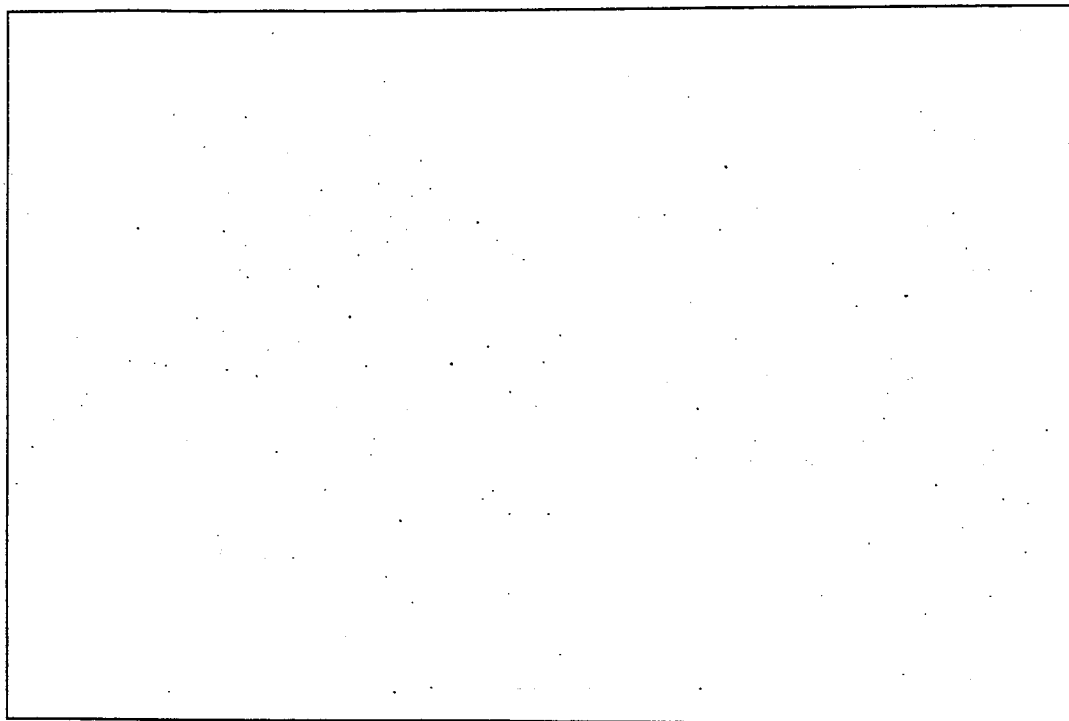
It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

356. Cuffley, p.87.

357. City of Prahran Rate Book 1939-40, Toorak Ward No.2246.

358. City of Prahran Rate Book 1950-51, Toorak Ward No.2516.

Kamillaroi, 45 St. Georges Road, Toorak



[No Photo - Property not visible from street.]

History and Description

Kamillaroi was built in 1909-11 for Clive Baillieu.³⁵⁹ The owner of this substantial residence, Richard Percy Clive Baillieu (1874-1941) was the brother of W. L. Baillieu and a partner with another brother, Edward Lloyd Baillieu, in the share broking firm E. L. & C. Baillieu.³⁶⁰ The designing architects were Butler and Bradshaw.³⁶¹ At this time the house was in the Arts and Crafts style with roughcast walls, tapered chimneys, sections of curved parapet and half timbered gables. It was much admired by contemporaries and appeared in Ure Smith's 1919 publication, *Domestic Architecture in Australia*, and also in the 'Stately Homes of Toorak' series in the *Australian Home Builder*, of May 1924. The latter article featured a number of photographs of the property including its drive and entrance porch, garden walk and balcony and gable wing.³⁶²

A concrete garage with a workroom and chauffeur's quarters was added at the rear of the residence in about 1915.³⁶³ This was an important addition to a number of Toorak mansions at this time.

359. Contract drawing, Butler and Bradshaw, Kamillaroi for Clive Baillieu, 1909. Picture Collection, SLV.

360. *ADB*, Vol. 7, p.140.

361. MMBW House Cover No. 69657. Dated 1910.

362. *Australian Home Beautiful*, May 1924, pp. 33-35.

363. MMBW House Cover No. 69657.

The residence itself was substantially modified in 1926 to designs prepared by W. & R. Butler & Martin.³⁶⁴ Undated contract drawings by these architects have survived in the University of Melbourne Architectural Drawing Collection held in the Latrobe Library.³⁶⁵ The alterations included the removal of the verandah and porches and several rooms.³⁶⁶ These alterations were significant both in terms of internal planning and appointments of the house and in terms of its external styling. A recent report explains the changes in these words:

'With reference to the latter, the substantial alterations and additions were typically plain roughcast on the ground floor to match the existing but were half timbered on the first floor. The overall effect was to change the appearance from a Voyseyan Arts and Crafts expression to a more literal Old English expression. This change was characteristic of an emergent tendency in domestic architecture in Melbourne towards the Old English as a favoured idiom, particularly in the more affluent suburbs such as Toorak'.³⁶⁷

The completed building was one of the most publicised to be shown at the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects' 1928 Exhibition of Domestic Architecture. In addition several views of the house and garden were featured in the review of this exhibition in the *Australian Home Beautiful* of May 1928.

Situated on a large triangular block behind a high paling fence and established garden, Kamillaroi is barely visible from the street. Its steep slate roof and half-timbered Medieval upper storey can be seen behind the trellised gate entrance. A serpentine driveway inlaid with tapestry brickwork terminates at the footpath in an octagonal design. The house exterior remains substantially intact to its late 1920s state. Its garden retains many elements from the original Butler layout, along with certain new terraces introduced in the mid-1920s.

The Kamillaroi garden was originally designed by Butler and Bradshaw in 1910. It demonstrated the integration of a manor-style house and picturesque garden, and showed the influence on Butler of Edwin Lutyens and the landscape gardener, Gertrude Jekyll.³⁶⁸ The existing garden has been judged as of State significance as one of the few mansion gardens surviving from the inter-war period, and for its associations with the Baillieu family.³⁶⁹

The architect, Walter Butler, who was in partnership with Ernest R. Bradshaw between 1907 and 1916, and with his nephew, Richard, after First World War, had great talent, which was widely recognised throughout his career. He numbered many wealthy pastoralists and businessmen among his clients. He is associated with a number of important houses in Melbourne suburbs. These include two large Toorak residences in St. Georges Road, Kamillaroi and Edzell in 1917.³⁷⁰ He was one of a number of architects who favoured the Arts and Crafts approach in the years c1900-1915, whereas in the period after the Great War, Butler and his contemporaries

364. MMBW House Cover No. 69657.

365. Contract drawings, W & R Butler & Martin. Picture Collection, SLV.

366. Written submission on Kamillaroi by Mrs Mary Davies.

367. Bryce Raworth, 'Kamillaroi, 45 St. Georges Road'.

368. Bryce Raworth, 'Kamillaroi, 45 St. Georges Road'.

369. City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

370. *ADB*, Vol. 7, pp. 510-511.

moved steadily towards a more Old English period revival. This was particularly popular when designing the homes of the wealthy in such suburbs as Toorak. Other architects associated with the Old English revival included Philip Hudson, Eric Beedham, Arthur Plaisted and Cedric Ballantyne.³⁷¹

It has been commented that the shift from an Arts and Crafts influenced approach to design, which often attempted to develop an Australian idiom, was replaced by a fashion for Old English nostalgic architecture in the mid Twenties:

'The use of an external expression, drawing heavily from medieval precedents became a means of expressing the solidity and longevity of British traditions. Old English or Tudor styled houses were no longer seen as an experimental Australian architecture, but were instead associated with a profound Empire consciousness. This emphasis on Britishness was reinforced by literary discussions which described the buildings as Tudor, Old English or Elizabethan rather than just 'medieval'.³⁷²

The changes to Kamillaroi could be interpreted as an illustration of this shift in styles and architectural symbolism, especially as the same architect was largely responsible for both designs. Marcus Martin, Butler's partner at the time of the second project, was not a protagonist of British architecture, tending in the 1920s to prefer bungalow and Spanish Mission styles.³⁷³

Significance

Kamillaroi is of state significance and has a prominent place within the surviving work of Walter Butler and also the broader context of the revival of Old English domestic architecture during the inter-war period, particularly in affluent suburbs like Toorak. It has state historical significance for its long association with the Baillieu family. Its picturesque garden setting, which may retain elements of the original plan, and is one of the few such gardens surviving from the inter-war period, contributes to the property's aesthetic significance.

Sources

Australian Dictionary of Biography, Vol. 7, p.140, (Entry for Baillieu); pp. 510-511 (Entry for Butler).

Australian Home Beautiful, May, 1928.

City of Prahran, *Significant Tree and Garden Study*, 1992.

Contract drawings, Butler and Bradshaw; W. & R. Butler & Martin. Picture Collection, State Library of Victoria.

Domestic Architecture in Australia: Special Number of Art in Australia, Sydney Ure Smith, Bertram Stevens and Hardy Wilson (eds.), Sydney 1919.

MMBW House Cover No. 69657.

371. Bryce Raworth, 'A Question of Style - Inter War Domestic Architecture in Melbourne', 1993.

372. Raworth, 1992.

373. Raworth, B., 'Marcus Martin: a survey of his life and work'.

National Trust File No. 6454.

Rayworth, Bryce, 'Kamillaroi, 45 St. Georges Road', Nov. 1992, notes prepared on behalf of the City of Prahran.

Raworth, Bryce, 'A Question of Style - Inter-war Domestic Architecture in Melbourne', Master of Architecture Thesis, Department of Architecture, University of Melbourne, 1993.

Analysis & Recommendations

Further research confirmed the 1926 date of the extensions by Butler and Martin³⁷⁴. The significance of these extensions was confirmed in terms of an exploration of the Revival of Old English styles in the inter-war years, reflecting the political and social pluralism of the time.

It is recommended that this property be retained at A1 level.

374. MMBW House Cover No. 69657.

Glenleith 5 Towers Road, Toorak



History and Description

Glenleith, a nine-roomed brick residence, was built on Lot 10 in Towers Road in 1917-18 for Vernon L. Duckett, merchant.³⁷⁵ The architect Charles D'Ebro owned the adjacent Lot 9.³⁷⁶ Duckett was living at 5 Towers Road (described as a 10-roomed house) in the 1940s.³⁷⁷

The designing architect is Rodney Alsop, a well-known Melbourne architect who rose to prominence with the firm Klingender & Alsop (1906-1920), and who was commissioned to design houses for wealthy residents of suburbs such as Toorak, Kew and Malvern.³⁷⁸ Alsop's domestic work in the Craftsman Bungalow and Old English idioms reflects the degree of stylistic diversity in interwar architecture. This has been interpreted as an expression of pluralism in post-war political and social culture.³⁷⁹

The debt to the Craftsman type bungalow is evident in Alsop's earlier houses such as Edrington, Berwick (1908) and Mowallock (1909), Beaufort, and also in smaller houses at 2 and 4 Stonnington Place, Malvern, built between 1913 and 1916 with typical features including flat eaved dormer lit attic, massive chimneys, different wall textures and generous use of wood internally and externally.³⁸⁰ Alsop, a member of

375. Prahran Rate Book 1917-18 Toorak Ward, No. 1658.

376. Prahran Rate Book 1917-18 Toorak Ward, No. 1657.

377. Prahran Rate Book 1940-41 Toorak Ward, No. 2209.

378. D. Alsop, pp.7-15.

379. B. Raworth, p.2.

380. D. Alsop; J. Clare, pp.42-43.

the Arts & Crafts Society, often furnished his own houses with articles designed by the architect, such as corner cupboards and beaten copper fire hoods.³⁸¹

Alsop appears to have moved away from the Craftsman idiom to an emphasis on the Old English design, around the beginning of the First World War. Houses such as Greenknowe (formerly Brie Brie), St Georges Road, Toorak (1914) and Crumpford, corner of Stonnington Place and Denham Place, Toorak (1916), exemplify this transition and Glenleith has been ranked highly among Alsop's work in the English Cottage genre.³⁸²

In many ways Glenleith is similar to number 6 Stonnington Place, (now demolished), with its dramatic roof pitch, roughcast rendered walls and arrangement of elements.

Set on a sloping site, this large residence has the picturesque form of large English Cottage houses. Features such as the steep slate roof with half-timbered gable ends, the grouping of lead light casement windows, massive chimneys and arched porch are typical architectural features associated with this style. A later landscape feature is the polychrome brick paving in the return driveway.

Alsop's houses, designed in the Old English style, are considered, with those of Harold Desbrowe-Annear, to be among the best examples of that stylistic influence in Victoria.

'These houses, notable in terms of their relatively advanced and open internal planning, have been interpreted as a bold and creative attempt to generate a distinctive modern Australian idiom, but their expression is more clearly related to ... [a] fascination with Ruskin and the English Arts & Crafts movement'.³⁸³

The house remains in the ownership of the original family, the Ducketts, and is important for this long and continuous association.

Significance

This large residence is of state significance on architectural grounds as an intact example of the domestic work of the prolific Victorian architect Rodney Alsop whose domestic work in Victoria, and particularly in Melbourne's wealthier suburbs in the first two decades of this century, is important in demonstrating the degree of stylistic diversity in inter-war architecture. This house is an excellent and very intact example of Alsop's work in the English Cottage style. The building has research value and has historical significance for its continuing association with the original family ownership.

Sources

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381. Raworth, p.26.

382. D. Alsop, *pers. comm.*, 1993.

383. Raworth, p.96.

Clare, J., *The Post-Federation house in Melbourne*, Research report, Faculty of Architecture & Planning, University of Melbourne, 1984.

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Analysis & Recommendations

It is recommended that this building be retained at A1 level.