

RESIDENCE
3 Elm Grove**History and Description**

Built c. 1868 by and for Richmond builder and timber merchant Richard Fitzgerald. A brick out-building may have been an earlier house dating from 1852 when Fitzgerald purchased the allotment at the Elm Grove subdivision sale.

In 1854 Fitzgerald built the first Roman Catholic church in Richmond in Bridge Road. His timber yard was located at the corner of Swan and Green Streets where Dimmey's Stores now stand.

He was a member of the Richmond Council for a number of years, and was instrumental in achieving the long awaited extension of Swan Street through the Survey Paddock to Hawthorn. He also formed part of the committee set up to effect the Swan Street railway overpass. The house is an early example of polychromatic brickwork and is designed in an individual Victorian Gothic style. Internally there is an unusual brick fireplace, a well under the hall floor, a panelled ceiling in the drawing room and interesting timber carvings on the doors and fireplaces.

Statement of Significance

A most unusual three storey Victorian Gothic residence in polychromatic brickwork.

References

National Trust of Australia (Vic.) F.N. 2398.

White, J.U. Early Residents and Property Owners of Richmond p. 5.