

**ELIM**  
**29 Erin Street**

**History and Description**

29 Erin Street was cut off William Highett's Crown allotment, and a pair of semi-detached houses erected on it prior to 1855. One of the houses of eight rooms was owned by Rev. Dr. Adam Cairns, a pioneer Presbyterian minister; the other of ten rooms was owned by a Mrs. Broadfoot. William Muir purchased the latter house in 1862.

In 1870 Cairn's house was leased by his grandson William Harper, a director of Robert Harper and Company, merchants and manufacturers. In 1889, William Harper demolished the Cairns and Muir residences and erected 'Yooralbyn', an Italianate mansion with an elaborate stair hall. It retains its original allotment size and remnants of early garden planting.

The property was renamed 'Elim' when purchased by the Salvation Army. The elaborate timber picket front fence has been removed.

**Statement of Significance**

The only intact mansion estate remaining from 19th century Richmond.

**References**

Richmond Council ratebooks.  
 Subdivision maps of Erin Street, LaTrobe Library.  
Victorian and its Metropolis, Vol. 2, 1888.

