

HISTORY : An early Edwardian house, built 1910-1911. The "crown" pattern cast-iron refers to the coronation of George V in 1910. In 1901, there were no buildings between 491 Swan Street and the Yarra River,¹ but construction was in progress in 1910, and the house was completed by 1911. Nathaniel Skuse, an engine driver, was the first owner and lived in the house until about 1919 when Jorgen Moltzen, a shipwright moved in as the new owner. Moltzen lived here for some years.²

VISUAL DESCRIPTION : An Edwardian house with tuck-pointed dyed red brick. It has a broad gambrel iron roof, the left bay set forward as a gable, with the verandah under in the angle. There are terra-cotta finials and cresting. The upper gable is timbered roughcast, jettied forward on elaborate bracket pairs. Windows are tall sash pairs over a roughcast dado. The verandah has "crown" pattern cast-iron lace valence and brackets, with turned posts and geometric encaustic tile floor. The entry has leadlight door, side and fanlights. There is a picket fence and side lattice screen.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS : A characteristic type.

SIGNIFICANCE : A relatively intact Edwardian house of local architectural interest, within the context of other Edwardian houses.

INTACTNESS : Very good. The iron roof has been recently replaced and the terra-cotta decoration reinstated.

CONDITION & THREATS : Good.

REFERENCES : 1. 1901 MMBW plan 1095 shows a vacant site.
2. City of Richmond Rate Books, East Ward.
Sands and McDougall Directories.