



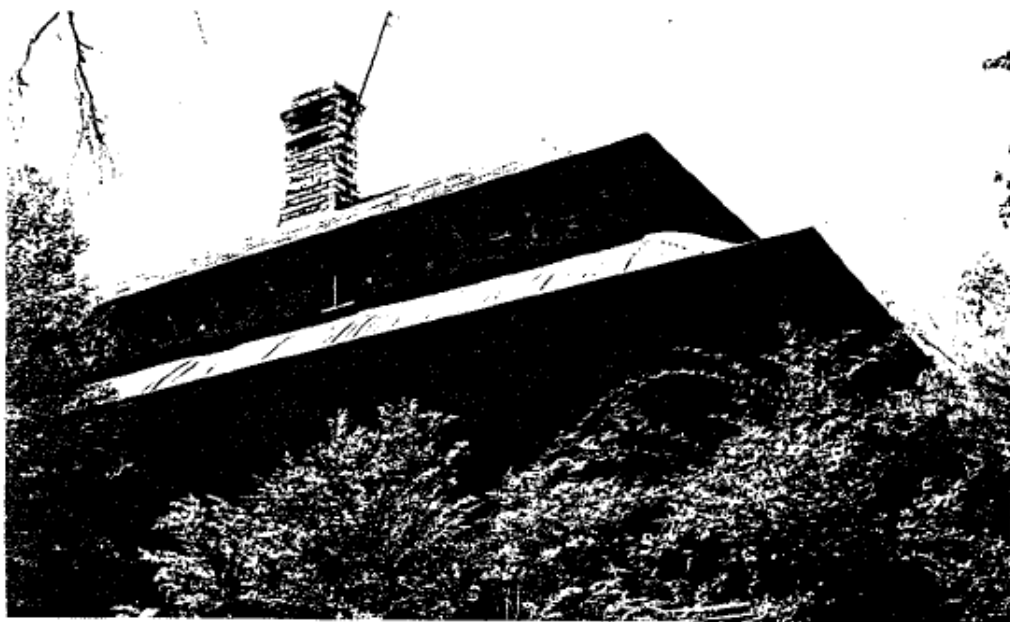
ROSEMONT COTTAGE,  
3 ROSEBERG CRESCENT

Charles W. Roemer of Sydney purchased Crown Portion 120 in 1840. In the following year he sold the major part of this land to James Manning, also of Sydney. By 1852 both James and William M. Manning owned all of the land to the south of Heidelberg Road and began to sell allotments from a subdivision centred on Yarra Street (Yarralea): Bank Street and Roemer Crescent were the two other streets of their estate.<sup>1</sup> In December, 1855, William Manning sold lot 33 of the estate to John Mason<sup>2</sup> but it was John Enticott, an ironmonger, who purchased seven acres of land facing Roemer Crescent, where he cultivated a garden in the late 1830's.<sup>3</sup> By 1839 he had built a house and stable on this land.<sup>4</sup>

John Enticott had established his business in the Colony during 1858; pioneering, among other products, the distribution of corrugated iron. He was born in 1834 at Chard, Somerset, where he was a plumber

and glazier's apprentice. After a stay in London, he left for Victoria; arriving in 1856. By 1901 he had retired and his sons, William and Charles managed the business, which John had developed since the 1850's, dealing with imported goods and sanitary ware manufacture. The place of his retirement was Rosemont Cottage at Alphington; after residing for a long time in Bay View Terrace, Collins Place Melbourne. The works were then at Little Collins Street but, by 1900, were in Little Lonsdale Street.<sup>5</sup>

Later residents at Rosemont Cottage, were Miss H. Enticott, Richard T. Carter, Elizabeth A. Carter, Miss M. Carter, Walter Turner, Francis S. Young and Elizabeth Young, who sold the house in 1968.<sup>6</sup>



Rosemont Cottage was built as a four-room, polychrome brick house with a central passage and a return-verandah to three sides. The verandah has an ogee-profile roof, panelled cast-iron friezes and cast-iron brackets and capitals; the posts have been replaced in part, as has the verandah floor. The M-Rip roof is slated and the eaves bracketed in terracotta; the same cream terracotta is employed in an ogee string-mould. Cream bricks pick out diaper patterns, at the openings, against a brown body brick. At both ends of the passage the doorways have arched fanlights; the entrance to the north having border patterns, using coloured glazing in the fanlight and detailed pictorial transfers in the door panels which depict the arts, science, commerce and other figurative scenes. The hallway has two, semi-engaged round columns at the arch and four white, Jacobean mannered marble mantels adorn the main rooms. There is a matching brick bay, housing bedrooms, which has probably been added in c1900, at the north-west; one marble mantel survives here.

Alterations include the addition of a timber bay to the south-east, the extension and replacement of the verandah balustrade, balustrade panels and, in part, the supports; the removal of the rear verandah and service yard and its replacement with a new room, and alterations, in detail, to the interior. The extent of the 'veritable Arcadia' of Euticott's garden has been reduced drastically in area and content.

Rosemont Cottage has still the qualities of Euticott's occupation, particularly in the interior, and is not beyond restoration externally. The aspect chosen by Euticott, his brother and another hardware merchant, William Delbridge, remains in the uninterrupted view of the Yarra River: the site of their species gardens and orchards. Rosemont is the only near original house remaining from this group of large houses.