

Grantown House, 82 Nicholson St, Fitzroy, VIC, Australia**Photographs:****List:** Register of the National Estate**Class:** Historic**Legal Status:** [Registered](#) (21/10/1980)**Place ID:** 15319**Place File No:** 2/11/020/0080**Statement of Significance:**

Grantown House is an outstanding example of Victorian terrace house architecture (Criterion D.2). The building is of considerable interest for its unusual verandah joinery and the way in which the different eras of construction (the 1850s and the 1870s) are visible in the facade (Criterion B.2). Grantown House exhibits notable creative and technical achievement through its ornate facade, very fine cast iron decoration, elaborate door joinery and grand cast iron fence (Criterion F.1). Exhibiting a range of significant design characteristics, the building is of considerable importance in the Nicholson Street streetscape (Criterion E.1).

Official Values: Not Available**Description:**

The original section of the building, of two storeys, was constructed some time prior to 1858. In 1858 the owner was William Connell and the building was occupied by Maurice Soloman. In 1871 the owner was William Ross and in that year twelve rooms and stables were added to the property. The following year Ross leased the building to Mrs Philippa James who ran a Ladies College on the premises until 1878. Famous Australian actress Nellie Stewart attended the school. In 1876 seven more rooms were added. By 1880 the building was being used for boarders. It is currently a boarding house. The 1850s section of the house is the three two-storey right hand bays while the 1876 addition is probably the left hand bay and the third storey; some verandah work probably dates from 1876 as well. Built on bluestone foundations Grantown House has elaborate decoration including four urns on the parged and balustraded parapet, urns to the verandah walls, a row of bearded masks under the pediment, four delicate iron lace balconies under the top-floor windows and arched iron decoration to the verandahs. The two-storey verandah is a mixture of timber and iron, with extensive use of the former; the columns are timber and so are the spirals that edge them. The door joinery work is very elaborate. Side lights and transom lights survive intact. Also notable is the iron fence with its rich detail. Grantown House's resemblance to Janet Terrace, designed by Charles Webb, suggests that Webb may have been involved in Grantown House's design.

History: Not Available**Condition and Integrity:**

Grantown House is in good condition. The second floor verandah has been closed in with glazing. (1990)

Location:

82 Nicholson Street, Fitzroy.

Bibliography:

NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA) FILE.

JACOBS LEWIS VINES ARCHITECTS, "SOUTH FITZROY CONSERVATION STUDY", FITZROY 1979.