43 SACKVILLE STREET, FORMERLY 'POMEROY' 1

Original Use: Residence

Date of Construction: 1885²

Architect: Unknown

DESIGNATION A CITATION NO.14

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

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In November 1883 tenders were called for the construction of a large two-storey brick residence for John Mickleburgh³, an insurance company manager, and his two-storey boom mansion was given an initial N.A.V. of £180 in March 1885⁴. Following Mickleburgh's death in 1904 the property was purchased by Louisa Hunt 5. Due to limited visibility of the house, the description of the house by the Australian Heritage Commission is given here: '... Two storeyed in height, the building is faced by a double storeyed, arched, colonnade, supported on corinthian columns and terminated by corner piers. The arcade returns down one side, giving the house an asymmetrical disposition. Escutcheons form keystones to the arches and the columns have barley-sugar type shafts. There is a small light well in the entrance.'

SIGNIFICANCE-

The following is the Statement of Significance adopted by the Australian Heritage Commission: "Merridale", 43 Sackville Street Kew, forms part of a distinctive streetscape and is of architectural importance. The house is stylistically in the early boom classicism manner and is fairly typical in idiom but most distinctive for its detailing. Detailing of the columns ... their bases. Keystones, entrance steps, window detailing and incised patterning on walls are notable. Internally, the T-plan hall is uncommon as is the open wall above the entrance hall. Substantial grounds remain'.

HERITAGE LISTINGS

HBR: Not Recommended for inclusion on the register.

GBR: N/A

RNE: Registered.

National Trust: Classified No.3186

5 ibid.

This building, though of undoubted interest, was not recommended for nomination to the Historic Buildings Council by the Kew Conservation Study.

However, it is extremely difficult to see from the street and until such a time as it may be properly inspected, both inside and without, it should retain its A grading and be treated as a candidate for nomination to the Historic Buildings Council.

¹ Argus, 29 November 1883, p.10

² National Trust of Aust.(Vic), File No.3186

³ Architects' Index, University of Melbourne

⁴ National Trust of Aust (Vic), ibid.