

FORMER J. T. SMITH RESIDENCE  
30 Darling Street, South Yarra



Recommendations It is recommended that this building be added to the Register of Historic Buildings, retained on the Register of the National Estate and protected using the provisions of Clause 8 of the Town and Country Planning Act (Third Schedule).

Current Assessments This residence is included on the Register of the National Estate and classified by the National Trust of Australia (Victoria).

History and Description The house at 30 Darling Street, South Yarra was erected c. 1856 for John Thomas Smith, pioneer Melbourne resident, publican, politician, and landowner, most possibly to the design of early Melbourne architect David Ross. The two storey 11 room brick house constructed with slate roof, rendered facade, symmetrically displaced french windows and later cast iron balcony verandah is a colonial town house design reminiscent of the regency architecture of N.S.W. and Tasmania.

Significance The J. T. Smith house is of local historical importance being erected and then occupied for a short term (1857-60) by J. T. Smith, celebrated public figure, foundation Melbourne City Councillor and seven times Mayor, and State politician. The house is of architectural interest as a colonial town house of the immediate post gold rush era, and if substantiated, a rare and representative surviving work of important early Melbourne architect David Ross.

Intactness The original character of the house at 30 Darling Street, South Yarra has been substantially affected by the erection of a later cast iron balcony verandah and by part replastering of the facade. The interior has not been inspected and the house is now divided into flats.

References

National Trust of Australia (Victoria) File No. 1263 'Research into 30 Darling Street, South Yarra', March 1977.

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