

Glyn, 224 Kooyong Road

Architects: Klingender & Alsop

1902: MMBW plan shows the earlier Glyn on exactly the same site - remnants of the original structure may remain (MMBW Plan No 387(58), 160' to the inch.

1908: Owner, Mr Edward (sic) Miller, Toorak. Agents, Klingender & Alsop, 450 Chancery Lane, Melbourne (MMBW Drainage Plan 59647)

Built for Sir Everard Studley Miller in 1908 to the design of Klingender & Alsop, the house embodies the philosophies of the Arts and Crafts movement and its owner's taste. It also expresses the preoccupation held by Rodney Alsop for the aims of the Arts and Crafts Society, of which he was a founding member in 1908. Alsop is thought to have designed all of the internal elements, many being highly expressive of Arts and Crafts values. These include repousse and wrought metal work, leadlight windows and carved woodwork. English precedents may have included Baillie Scott's White Lodge (1899), Lutyen's Papillon Court (1903), or Homewood (1899) and Lethaby's Avon Tyrell (1893). All possess the picturesque gabled forms, display of natural materials and the inspiration of European Medieval domestic designs. (1)

This house was designed to be entered directly from the street frontage, from a large projecting entry porch, while the main rooms overlooked the vast garden to the side and rear. Alsop adopted this orientation for many other houses, which elsewhere provided an understated character, such as at 12 Uvadale Road, Kew. The house has an overall picturesque assembly of conical, bayed and gabled roofs and elegant tapered chimneys. The main walls and chimneys were finished in a distinctive pebble-dash highly textured stucco (with quartz river pebbles on an ochre coloured cement background). These once complemented the use of terracotta shingles on the massive roof and gable ends. Other distinctive elements include the Art Nouveau pattern wrought iron gate pairs, extended eaves brackets and oriel windows.

The house is substantially intact, despite the virtual loss of the surrounding land, although the painting of the pebble dash walls has substantially eroded the original character but not detailing of the building. The new fence and added wings have been carried out in a similar



style to the original building. Terraced near the house, the allotment extended to Toorak Road and included an open creek and large trees. At the rear, the land extended to the current position of Evans Court, from which location the house still presents an extraordinary appearance.

Refer to Appendix One for biographical details of architect.

Glyn is of national significance as one of the most important surviving Arts and Crafts residences in the country. The picturesque and unusual composition of forms, including the massive roof, chimneys, bays and the rich quality of the materials, set this building apart from any others and underscores the architectural mastery of Alsop at this early point in his career.

1 Citation based on the original by Graeme Butler.



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