

'TRAWALLA'

22 Lascelles Avenue, Toorak



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

Current Assessments 'Trawalla' is included on the Historic Buildings Register, the Register of the National Estate and classified by the National Trust of Australia (Victoria).

History and Description 'Trawalla' a two storey stucco rendered brick mansion now on a reduced site at 22 Lascelles Avenue, Toorak was constructed in two stages, firstly as a 20 room Italianate style residence for Melbourne merchant George Stevenson in 1867-8, and later in 1885 considerably enlarged to a 50 room mansion for retired pastoralist John Simson of 'Trawalla' near Beaufort. The architects were Powell and Whitaker and the builder David Mitchell.

Significance 'Trawalla' originally located on a prominent 8 hectare site with extensive grounds, outbuildings and entrance lodge, is of architectural importance as an unusual symmetrically disposed composition most notable for the regency derived bow front and encompassing double storey composite verandah. The building is an important surviving Toorak mansion and a significant work of noted mansion house architect Levi Powell. The grand staircase and serlian motif stain glass window on the landing are of interest.

Intactness 'Trawalla' at Toorak has been considerably reduced by demolition of part of the original building. The interior has been extensively modified and redecorated and only the staircase remains intact. The exterior, although intact has been blandly painted.

References

City of Prahran, Rate Books.

National Trust of Australia (Victoria) File No. 227 - Detailed

Bibliography.

Trust Newsletter, National Trust, South Yarra, February 1973, p. 17.

Sutherland, A., (et al), Victoria and Its Metropolis, McCarron Bird, Melbourne, 1888, Vol. II p. 529, 647.

(National Estate citation reprinted with permission of the Australian Heritage Commission).