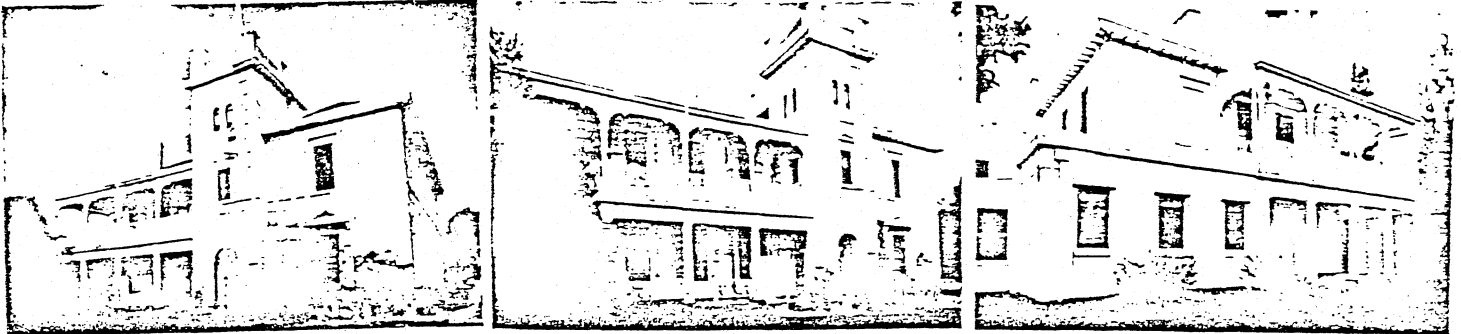


21 St. George's Road,
TOORAK, VIC. 3142



BUILDING CITATION

Toorak House in St. George's Road Toorak, constructed c.1848-51 was designed by architect Samuel Jackson and erected for but never occupied by wealthy Melbourne merchant James Jackson. The assymetrical, rectangular plan two storey brick and stucco italianate style mansion, complete with dominant tower and ground floor colonnade was leased and then extravagantly extended as the residence of the Governor of Victoria from 1854-74.

'Toorak House' is of special historical importance as the first substantial Government House in Victoria and the centre of Vice-Regal Administration from 1854-74. The structure is perhaps the oldest surviving mansion house in the State and of paramount architectural importance as an original example of the italianate tradition in residential design in Victoria by important pioneer architect Samuel Jackson.

'Toorak House' survives essentially intact although the character of the original mansion has been partially obliterated by alterations and embellishment. The extensive outbuildings and quarters have been demolished and the interior sympathetically converted for use of the Swedish church in Victoria.

Of national significance.

PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Public Records Office, Victoria. Public Works Dept, Victoria. Summary of Contracts Book, 1858-1878, and Plan records.

Blumrich, E. and Thwaites, A. 'Toorak House' History Research Essay, Dept of Architecture and Building, Univ of Melbourne 1968.

Casey, Maie, et al Early Melbourne Architecture, Oxford University Press, Melbourne 1953, pp 156-157.

Newman, W.H. Melbourne, The Biography of a City, Melbourne 1956, p.97.

Hetherington, John Witness to Things Past, Cheshire, Melbourne 1964, pp 67-73.

Robb, E.M. Early Toorak and District, Robertson and Mullens, Melbourne 1934. pp 54,55.