

**Belcroft (later Whernside), 2a Whernside Avenue**

1876: Sir James Lorimer, merchant, politician. 'Belcroft'. 1889: Lady Lorimer, widow.

1891: Albert Miller, gent. 'Whernside'

(National Trust Classifications Report prepared by C Kellaway, 27 August 1976)

1902: MMBW 40' to the inch Detail Plan No 1768 shows property with main entry drive from Albany Road to the south of the residence and a second service entry leading into a stable courtyard located directly on Albany Road and immediately behind the house. The large stable and rear service wings and service courtyard are clearly shown.

1907: Owner: Mr Albert Miller, 352 Flinders Lane, Melb Agent: R M Cuthbertson, 352 Flinders Lane, Melb (MMBW Drainage Plan 60698)

1918: Miss E Lucas C/o Anthony Lucas

(National Trust Classifications Report prepared by C Kellaway, 27 August 1976)

1919: Proposed alterations for A J Lucas shows demolition of service wing and some internal changes. (Malvern Building Plan 1874)

1921: Fittings abolished for rear service wing for Lucas, Australian Cafe, Collins Street, City. Agent Thomas Watts & Son.

1923: Anthony Lucas, Cafe proprietor

1928: Sir Colin Fraser, Mgr Dir BHP etc

(National Trust Classifications Report prepared by C Kellaway 27 August 1976)

1929: 'Alterations to 'Whernside' for Colin Fraser Esq. H Desbrowe Annear Architect, 94 Queen Street Melbourne' - this shows ... G White, builder, Wimba Avenue, Kew. Block plan retaining the main drive from Albany Road but with a new entry off Whernside Avenue and an extension towards Whernside Avenue. (Malvern Building Plan - no number)

1949: GMH Ltd (owner) H Bettle, manager (Occ)

1954: Myer Emporium Ltd

1957: Bernard Dowd o/o

1962: Dowd Associates P/L

(National Trust Classifications Report prepared by C Kellaway, 27 August 1976)

1950: Bettle, Harold Edward. Man. Dir. GMH. (Who's Who)

A large two storey, remodelled stuccoed Italianate mansion set in large grounds with some remaining mature trees. The bulky proportions of this building are a result of several alterations. The original design (shown in the 1907 MMBW drainage plan) shows a large but typical double bayed Italianate villa with two storey return verandah. A single storey wing extended to the south. In 1919 the building was dramatically remodelled. The verandah (possibly arcaded) was removed and infilled with only a small balcony remaining at both levels close to the entry. At this date the rear service wings and presumably the extensive stabling



were demolished. There is no indication of the treatment of the remaining section of balcony but in 1929 Harold Desbrowe Annear incorporated his now familiar Serlian screen over the entry. (Refer to Appendix One for biographical details of architect.) The property has a new fence and garage, all executed in rendered masonry in an attempt to emulate the stuccoed character of the house.

Belcroft is of local significance as one of the few remaining large nineteenth century Toorak mansions which once graced this area. The major remodellings of 1919 and 1929 have considerably altered the original character of this building. The significance now derives from the association with Annear and Serlian trademark and the historical association of former occupants.