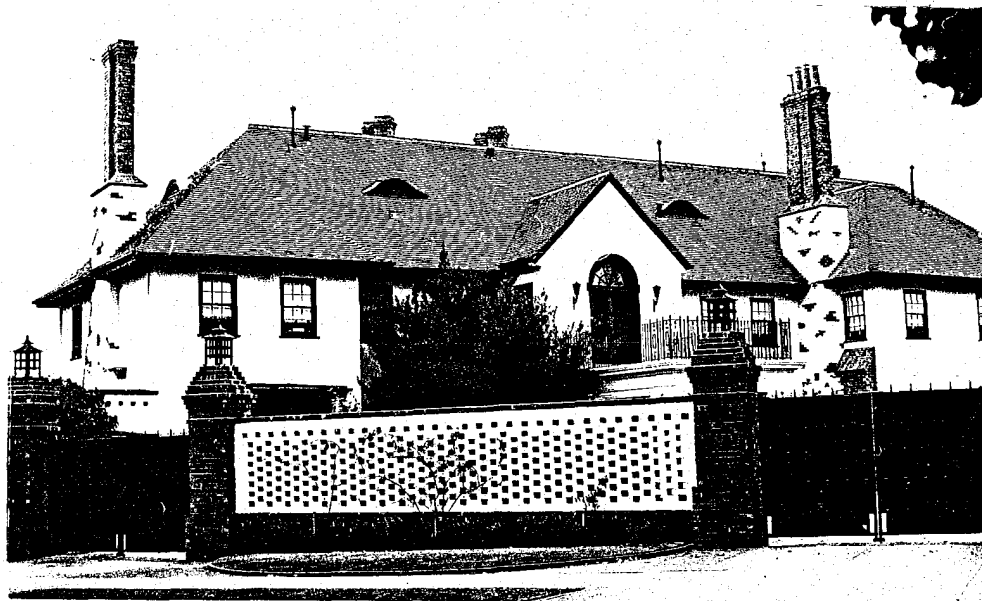


RESIDENCE

48-50 Irving Road, Toorak



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

History and Description The architects Walter and Richard Butler designed this two storey house in Irving Road, Toorak for Sir William McBeath and in 1925 it was erected by the builders, Glover and Roberts. The architects also designed the extensive garden incorporating formal areas of lawns, a pool, rose gardens, hedges and utility areas. The house itself is austere in style with simple stuccoed walls and a basically rectangular roof of tiles. Subsidiary hips project toward the front, and a central gable rises behind the Ionic porte-cochere. Tall chimneys are a feature of the building with chimney stacks of grouped square sections set diagonally rising from stuccoed breasts which themselves feature randomly grouped areas of exposed brickwork and pebblework. Small undulating roof vents are reminiscent of English cottage architecture and paned windows are also English in character. Internally the residence features an elliptical stairwell and large two storey entrance hall.

Significance Designed by the prolific architect, Walter Butler, this residence is a notable and intact example of the austere Georgian style adopted in the design of many Toorak mansions in this period. The random brickwork and pebblework of the chimney breasts is of particular note.

Intactness The residence itself remains largely intact and the extensive grounds have been retained at the junction of Irving and Albany Roads.

References

Working Drawings, residence for Sir William McBeath, March 1925, La Trobe Library Picture Collection.
Australian Home Beautiful, 1 January 1927, p.34.