

INDIVIDUAL HERITAGE PLACE – CITATION

HO170

NAME OF PLACE: House

OTHER NAMES OF PLACE: Moorah, Hansen house.

ADDRESS / LOCATION: 13 Tintern Avenue, Toorak

PROPERTY INFORMATION: lot 9, part LP4429

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local

ASSESSED BY: Graeme Butler, Francine Gilfedder.

ASSESSMENT DATE: March 2002

REVISED ASSESSMENT October 2003

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

(as visible from the street)

The former Hansen house at 13 Tintern Avenue, Toorak, is locally significant architecturally*:

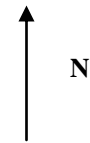
- as an innovative design for its construction date, with the main distinctive element being the prismatic oriel window (west elevation) juxtaposed against a restrained fenestration pattern and as an evocative example of Arts & Crafts architecture (Criterion E1, B2).

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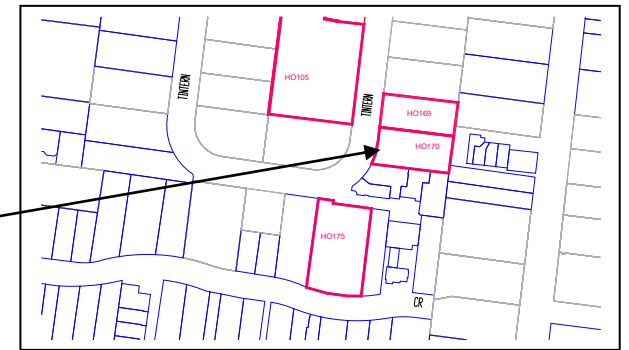
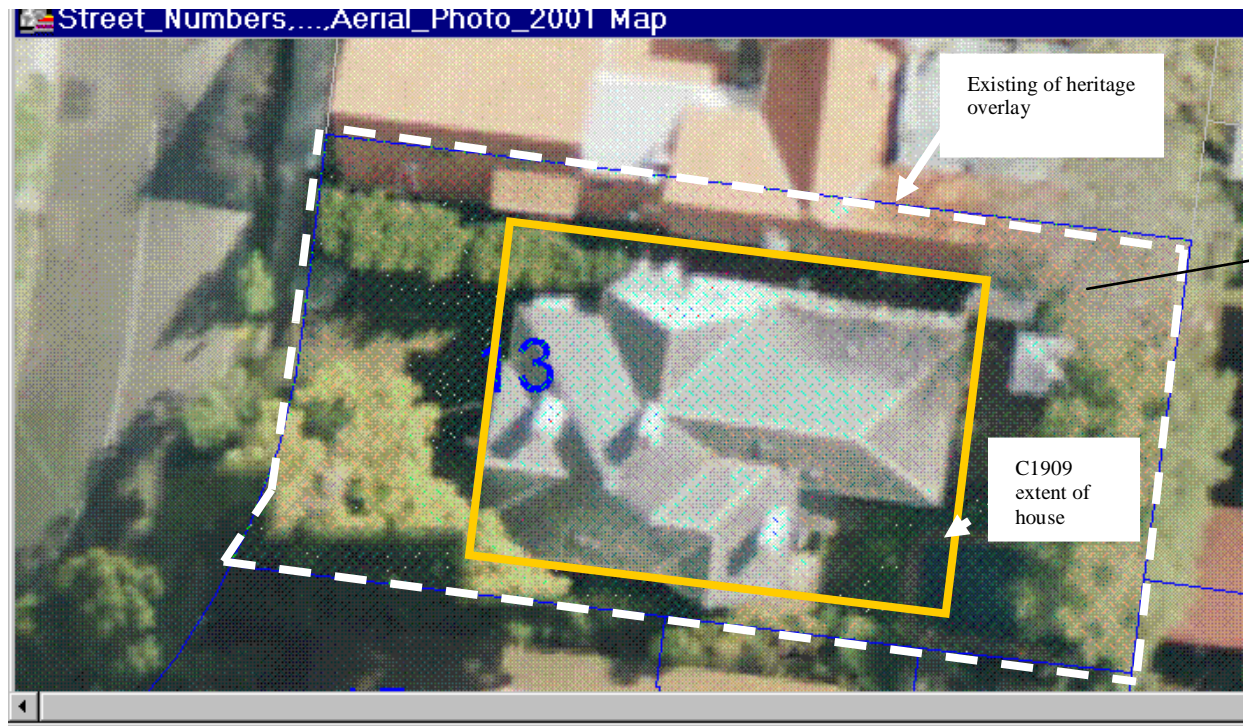
PLAN

Not to Scale¹

NAME: House
OTHER NAMES: Moorah, Hansen house
ADDRESS / LOCATION: 13 Tintern Avenue, Toorak



13 TINTERN AVE, TOORAK



¹ Cadastral plan and aerial photograph supplied by the City of Stonnington

PHOTO:



(Source: Graeme Butler & Associates) March 2002

DESCRIPTION:

(as assessed from the street)

This gabled roof, two storey house has roughcast stucco walls and tall capped chimneys, leadlight casement windows, wide eaves and exposed rafters, and a distinctive hipped roof triangular-section oriel window projecting from at first floor level. This element is reminiscent of the work of Desbrowe-Annear (see angled wall bays at Cloyne, 611 Toorak Rd, 1929) and is set central to two slim window openings at ground level providing an unusually simple street elevation for the time. The south elevation has leadlight window bays on two levels, a projecting hipped roof room bay at ground level, shingled upper level wall panels, and a timber entry arch. The north elevation has a projecting upper level room bay supported on curved timber brackets and roofed in a slated hipped form. The house resembles the work of Arts & Crafts English domestic revival architects such as CFA Voysey.

The random stone front fence may be early and is related to the Arts & Crafts character of the house.

Interior

Not inspected.

Condition & integrity

(as assessed from the street)

The roof slates have been renewed (Raworth, 1998); some balconies may have been enclosed in related leadlight glazing to timber casements.

Context

Tintern Avenue is located in the residential heart of Toorak. The narrow street takes the form of a crescent, beginning and ending at Toorak Road. The absence of through traffic and exclusively residential nature of the area combine to produce a tranquil streetscape that denies its proximity to Toorak Village. Number 13 Tintern Avenue occupies a large block at the eastern side of the crescent (Raworth, 1998). The house is located next 11 Tintern Avenue, another notable Arts & Crafts design.

HISTORY

Historical background

(see History of the Development of Prahran

By George Tibbits, for Nigel Lewis and Associates, Architects and Conservation Planners, 1983)

Development in Toorak (20th century)

The Toorak area was also the scene of intensive development in the period of 1920 to 1930. An important group of residences were erected near the corner of Heyington Road and Toorak Road, designed by architect Harold Desbrowe Annear. Annear also designed the garden for Sydney Myer's Cranlana, 62 Clendon Road in 1930. Annear employed the Italianate style with the inclusion of fountains, ferns and statues. Nearby in Clendon Road, Walter Burley Griffin's office had designed Clendon Lodge in 1923 for Mary Williams. Three years later Griffin designed the Langi flats also for Mary Williams. Another contribution to the architecture of the 1920s in this area was 'Mullion' (6 Stonehaven Court) designed by Eric . Nicholls in 1927-28 for W H Smith. The building was erected when Sir Francis Ormond's property at the corner of Clendon and Orrong Roads was subdivided and many of 'the mature trees from his garden were retained on the site of Mullion. South of Mullion another subdivision, Stradbroke Avenue was developed at a slightly later period. Buildings were all constructed of rough cast and masonry and today the feeling of the road conforms very much to its original appearance although. recent exterior redecoration to many residences has slightly lessened the overall effect.

The large allotments in the elevated areas of Toorak have seen two major subdivisional stages after the first large mansion allotments were created. This (aerial) view in 1950 of Irving Road shows the first pattern of subdivision of the original allotments which took place mainly from the 1880s (and) 1920s. The 1960s and 70s have seen a further subdivision of many of these allotments. (Tibbits, 1983)

Specific History

(see Foster, 1998)

1847

Crown land sale, allotments 31 and 32, bounded by the present Toorak, Williams, Malvern and Canterbury Roads, an area of about 105 acres were purchased by Thomas Colclough. Colclough subdivided the allotment into large estates, erected a comfortable home and named the property Tintern, after Tintern Abbey, Ireland.

1855

A prefabricated iron house manufactured in Glasgow, replaced Colclough's house. The ten roomed dwelling was erected on twelve acres of land in Toorak Road, for William Westgarth, eminent pioneer colonist, author, merchant and radical politician. Westgarth and his English bride lived there for only a few years, returning to Britain in 1857.

1902

Tintern's grounds were subdivided into building allotments and Tintern Avenue was created, with Tintern located on lot 12, opposite this site (later 10-12 Tintern Ave).

1909

Rate books (1909-10) list vacant land (60'3"x150') owned by Margaret Hansen and occupied by teacher, Martin P Hansen. A supplementary valuation was carried out in August 1910 for what was later described as a 10 room brick house.

MMBW Plan of Drainage shows a two storey brick house erected for M.P. Hansen to the design of architect A.S. Eggleston, of Chancery Lane.

Martin Peter Hansen (MA, LLB) made Inspector of Schools (later Director of Education)

1910-

Rate books (1909-10 supplementary) list 10 room brick house owned by Margaret Hansen and occupied by inspector, Martin P Hansen.

1915-

Residents included Massey Green, Adam Melville and Gustav Boehme

1923-1950s

Estate of the late Herbert Power purchased 13 Tintern Avenue. Herbert Power was a prominent pastoralist and stock and station agent. Herbert's widow, Constance, and her daughters, Constance, Nora, Meta and Gladys, moved from the mansion Moonga into 13 Tintern Avenue. A wedding notice for Gladys Power shows Moorah as the name of the house in Tintern Avenue. The Power daughters continued to live in the ten-roomed house until the 1950s.

1984

The house was identified in the Prahran Conservation Study Building Identification Form (N Lewis & Assoc) as of State significance (A1) in a level 2 streetscape: 'an outstanding composition of forms, one of best examples in Melbourne of the influence of noted English Arts & Crafts architect, Voysey'.

1988

Permit applied for alterations and additions

Hansen, Martin P (1874-1932), educationist

(see appendix 2, ADB)

Born on 24 January 1874 at Crosbie, Victoria, third surviving child of Hans Truelsen Hansen, farmer, and his wife Caroline, née Hollander, both from Schleswig (Prussia). Educated at Toolleen primary school, he won a scholarship to Scotch College, Melbourne.

While teaching in the country he pursued university studies, graduating B.A. (1898), LL.B. (1899) and M.A. (1900), and winning the Bowen [q.v.3] prize in 1898. On 5 February 1900 he resigned from the education department to accept a position at Wesley College and, on 11 July at Woodford, he married Margaret Morgan, manager of a coffee palace at Warrnambool. At Wesley Hansen began as a sports master and then became noted as a teacher of natural science. As first assistant master he did much of the organizing of the school and from April to November 1907 served as headmaster while Adamson [q.v.7] was overseas. Hansen helped to found the (Incorporated) Association of Secondary School Teachers of Victoria in 1904. He produced two successful textbooks on physics for schools and with Alfred Hart [q.v.] published *English ideals* (1903) and *Typical selections in prose and poetry* (1912); he collaborated with D. McLachlan in the 1912 publication of *An Austral garden: an anthology of verse*.

On 10 February 1909 Hansen rejoined the Education Department as inspector of registered teachers and schools and began his valuable association with Frank Tate [q.v.]. On 8 August he became chief inspector and chairman of classifiers of secondary schools. He went overseas in 1922-23 and on his return urged in a report on education in Britain and America the trial of the 'platoon' or notary system of organization in schools.

Hansen was assistant director of education from 1925 and acting director from 1927; on 25 June 1928 he succeeded Tate as director.

Hansen had been appointed to the Council of the University of Melbourne in 1932. R. H. Croll [q.v.8] described him as an 'absolutely just person, sympathetic, firm in his judgments but a patient listener, a delightful companion, but never more ... than when the conversation took a bookish turn'. Over the years Hansen had kept up his interest in athletics. He had been president of the Wallaby Club, a member of the Beefsteak and Boobook clubs and for some ten years from 1905 secretary of the Melbourne Shakespeare Society. He wrote a number of books during his career.

Alec Stanley Eggleston

(from Raworth, 1998)

1883
Eggleston born

c1901
Completed articles with Ussher & Kemp.

1902
He won the RVIA Bronze Medal on the basis of a measured drawing.

1905
Elected an Associate of the RVIA and commenced his own practice c1905-1907,

1914-1923
In partnership with Percy Allport Oakley, later of Oakley & Parkes.

c1923-36
A S & R A Eggleston & J D Overend

1926
Princess Mary Club, Lonsdale St (AS Eggleston)

c1936-
A S & R A Eggleston

1937
Provident Life Building, Queen St, considered by Modernist architectural critics, such as Robin Boyd, as a notable proto-modern commercial design.

1937-8
President of the RVIA

1940
London & Lancashire Building redevelopment, 400 Collin St

1954-
Eggleston, MacDonald & Secomb

1955
Eggleston dies.



ANALYSIS

Thematic context

The Principal Australian Historic Themes (PAHT) have been developed by the Australian Heritage Commission to allow assessment of historical significance within a national historical thematic framework.

PAHT	Subtheme	Category
Building settlements, towns and cities	Making suburbs	House, urban

Comparative analysis

Summary

Like 11 Tintern Avenue, this design is an unusual and innovative one for the date of construction (compared with the other contemporary examples below), showing close links to British Arts & Crafts architecture. This is a well preserved and distinctive work by Eggleston who showed that he had great architectural ability as well as achieving note in professional politics, as president of the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects.

The association with Hansen, an educationist of State-wide influence and stature is a major element of the historical significant of the place.

Eggleston's residential work include:

House for T. Shaw Fitchett at Balwyn (1910),
Beauchamp residence, 17 Dudley Street, Brighton (1915), and
House at 10 Stonnington Place (1924 demolished).

Each draws from the Arts & Crafts English domestic revival, with hard edged stuccoed forms and strongly expressed gabled or hipped roofs.

Later designs include a house at 343 Glenferrie Road, Armadale built for Mrs MM Gault, (1936) and the Provident Life Building, Queen Street (1938).

Houses identified as potential significant in the City of Stonnington from this period include:

House at 13a Monaro Road, Kooyong built 1908c
House at 27 Tooronga Road, Malvern East built 1908c
House at 45 St Georges Road, Toorak built 1909
House at 1 Spring Road, Malvern built 1909
House at 345 Glenferrie Road, Armadale built 1909
House at 347 Glenferrie Road, Armadale built 1909
House at 41 Power Street, Toorak built 1909-10
House at 73-75 Elizabeth Street, Malvern built 1909-10
House at 45 St. Georges Road, Toorak built 1909-11
House at 92 Finch Street, Malvern East built 1910
House at 35 Rockley Road, South Yarra built 1910-11
House at 712 Toorak Road, Kooyong built 1910-11
House at 408 Waverley Road, Malvern East built 1910c
House at 4 Irving Road, Toorak built 1910c
House at 661 Orrong Road, Toorak built 1910c
House at 636 Orrong Road, Toorak built 1910c
House at 4 Burnie Street, Toorak built 1910c
House at 89-93 Finch Street, Malvern East built 1910c
House at 10 Epping Street, Malvern East built 1910c
House at 17 Manning Road, Malvern built 1910c
House at 43 Chadstone Street, Malvern East built 1910c
House at 300 Williams Road, Toorak built 1910c
House at 14-16 Stonehaven Avenue, Malvern East built 1910c

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House at 1076 Malvern Road, Armadale built 1910c
House at 52 Burke Road, Malvern East built 1910c -
House at 3 Glenbervie Road, Toorak built 1911
House at 1458 High Street, Glen Iris built 1911-12c
House at 404 Glenferrie Road, Kooyong built 1912
House at 9 Como Avenue, South Yarra built 1912
House at 310 Glenferrie Road, Malvern built 1912-13
House at 6 Stonnington Place, Toorak built 1912-16
House at 17 Munro Street, Armadale built 1913
House at 1181 Malvern Road, Malvern built 1913
House at 221 Burke Road, Glen Iris built 1913-14 (demolished)
House at 679 Toorak Road, Kooyong built 1914
House at 8 Stonnington Place, Toorak built 1914
House at 14 Power Avenue, Toorak built 1914
House at 4 Como Avenue, South Yarra built 1914
House at 6 Munro Street, Armadale built 1914
House at 1059 Malvern Road, Toorak built 1914-15
House at 12 Somers Avenue, Malvern built 1914-15
House at 4 Belmont Avenue, Glen Iris built 1914c (demolished)



Assessment against the criteria adopted by the Australian Heritage Commission

Summary of Australian Heritage Commission criteria

Code	Summary	Assessment at local significance	Assessment at contributory significance
B.2	Rarity or distinction among a comparable group	Innovative design for its construction date, with the main distinctive element being the prismatic oriel window (west elevation) juxtaposed against a restrained fenestration pattern	
E.1	Aesthetic importance to the community or a cultural group	Evocative example of Arts & Crafts architecture and innovative design for its construction date	beside another notable example of the style at 11 Tintern Avenue
H.1	Association with important person or group		An early and distinctive work of the prominent architect, AS Eggleston Close association with the commissioning owner, Hansen, who was prominent within the State as an educationist and civil servant, and long association with the locally prominent Power family ² Long association with the locally prominent Power family

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The building and existing mapped land should remain in the heritage overlay of the Stonnington Planning Scheme. The place should be assessed by the Heritage Council of Victoria for addition to the State register.

Proposed extent of heritage place for the heritage overlay

The house and land with external fabric from the construction date c1909

Planning Scheme Protection in a heritage overlay: Recommended

Other heritage registers

Heritage Victoria Register: Recommended

Register of the National Estate: Recommended

² The Panel found no significant association with the commissioning owner: Hansen: Graeme Butler & Associates maintains that this association is locally significant

REFERENCES

Raworth & Foster 1998 cite:

City of Prahran rate book, South Yarra ward, 1934-5. ???
John Clare, The post-Federation House in Melbourne, unpublished research paper, Faculty of Architecture and Planning, University of Melbourne, 1984.
MMBW drainage plan 68433, 13 Tintern Avenue.
National Trust of Australia (Victoria), 'Tintern', Toorak.
Power family history file, Malvern Archives.
Sands & McDougall directories, 1911-1960.
Tintern Estate subdivision plan, 1902, Prahran Archives.

Further references:

LP4429 (copy held)
Hubbard, Looker. City of Prahran Significant Tree & Garden Study 1992: V2
Butler, G. Central Activities District Conservation Study for the City of Melbourne
MMBW Detail Plan 972
City of Prahran rate book, South Yarra ward, 1909-10, 1722; 1913-14, 2045; 1914-15, 2051;
'Weekly Times' 23/1/1909: 32 Hansen
'Table Talk' "People We Know" series, 19/7/1928: 11
'Australian Dictionary of Biography' V9: 189

Further work

None.

Appendix 1 Previous citation

Council has considered a series of amendments to the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Stonnington Planning Scheme. During the exhibition period of former Amendments L47 and L61 objections to the inclusion of some properties in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay were received. Therefore Council resolved to undertake further analysis of the heritage citations of affected properties prior to holding an independent panel hearing. The amendments are now known as C5 and C6(2) respectively. The following citation was exhibited with amendment L61.

INTRODUCTION

This report has been prepared by Bryce Raworth Pty Ltd with Di Foster, historian. It investigates the significance of the property at 13 Tintern Avenue, Toorak, in order to determine the appropriateness of its inclusion within the schedule to the Heritage Overlay within the planning scheme.

The building was graded A1 in The Prahran Conservation Study. It is not presently listed on the Victorian Heritage Register or the Register of the National Estate or classified by the National Trust.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

This report finds that 13 Tintern Avenue is of regional significance and should be added to the schedule to the Heritage Overlay in the local section of the Stonnington Planning Scheme and nominated to the Australian Heritage Commission for inclusion in the register of the National Estate.

HISTORY

At the crown land sale of June 1847, allotments 31 and 32, bounded by the present Toorak Williams, Malvern and Canterbury Roads, an area of about 105 acres were purchased by Thomas Colclough. Colclough subdivided the allotment into large estates, erected a comfortable home and named the property Tintern, after Tintern Abbey, Ireland. In 1855 a prefabricated iron house manufactured in Glasgow, replaced Colclough's house. The ten roomed dwelling was erected on twelve acres of land in Toorak Road, for William Westgarth, eminent pioneer colonist, author, merchant and radical politician.[1] Westgarth and his English bride lived there for only a few years, returning to Britain in 1857. In 1902 Tintern's grounds were subdivided into building allotments and Tintern Avenue was created.[2] Tintern was retained on the west side of Tintern Avenue.

In 1909 on one of the allotments on the east side of Tintern Avenue, a two storey brick house was erected for M.P. Hansen to the design of architect A.F. Eggleston.[3] The house was later numbered 13 Tintern Avenue and from 1915 various residents, including Massey Green, Adam Melville and Gustav Boehme, occupied the property. Around 1923, the estate of the late Herbert Power purchased 13 Tintern Avenue. Herbert Power a prominent pastoralist and stock and station agent, had lived with his family at 'Moonga' a mansion in Toorak Road, overlooking Gardiners Creek.[4] In 1923 Herbert's widow, Constance, and her daughters, Constance, Nora, Meta and Gladys, moved from 'Moonga' into 13 Tintern Avenue. A wedding notice for Gladys Power shows 'Moorah' as the name of the house in Tintern Avenue.[5] The Power daughters continued to live in the ten-roomed house until the 1950s.[6]

DESCRIPTION

Tintern Avenue is located in the residential heart of Toorak. The narrow street takes the form of a crescent, beginning and ending at Toorak Road. The absence of through traffic and exclusively residential nature of the area combine to produce a tranquil streetscape that denies its proximity to Toorak Village.

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Number 13 Tintern Avenue occupies a generous block at the eastern side of the crescent. The house is set behind a stone fence, possibly original, and an informal garden of trees and shrubs. The house is orientated towards the driveway at the southern boundary of the property and consequently presents an austere secondary facade to the street while its more lively facade remains almost hidden.

The two storey house draws inspiration from the work of the English Domestic Revival architects most notably, WA Voysey. The street elevation comprises plain roughcast walls and chimneys highlighted by the sparse use of Domestic Revival features such as leadlight casement windows, wide eaves on exposed rafters and an unusual triangular bay window projecting from the first floor. The driveway elevation is more ornate with elaborate bay windows in hung shingles at either side of an elevated entry distinguished by a decorative timber arch and steps featuring fine steel railings. A triangular section oriel to the first floor is a major feature of this elevation. The selection of materials for the driveway elevation reinforce connections to Arts and Crafts ideals of English Domestic architects.

The house appears substantially intact, although the slates to the roof have been renewed. Several balconies appear to have been enclosed in a sympathetic manner with glazing, most notably what may have been a balcony or sleepout on the north side, supported on decorative timber brackets, which is now enclosed by a range of casement windows.

ARCHITECT

The architect of 13 Tintern Avenue would appear to have been Alec Stanley Eggleston. Eggleston was born in 1883, and completed articles with Ussher & Kemp. He won the RVIA Bronze Medal in 1902 on the basis of a measured drawing, and was elected an Associate of the RVIA in 1905. Eggleston commenced his own practice around 1905 or 1907, and by 1914 he was in partnership with Percy Allport Oakley, later of Oakley & Parkes. [7] Known works in this early period include a house for T. Shaw Fitchett at Balwyn (1910), [8] the Beauchamp residence, 17 Dudley Street, Brighton (1915), and a house at 10 Stonnington Place (1924). Each of these shares the same basic interest in terms of English vernacular revival styling, with hard edged stuccoed forms and strongly expressed gabled or hipped roofs.

Later projects included a house at 343 Glenferrie Road and the Provident life Building, Queen Street (1938). Practices within which Eggleston is understood to have worked include:

A S Eggleston 1905-1914
Eggleston & Oakley 1914-23
A S & R A Eggleston & J D Overend 1923-36 (???)
A S & R A Eggleston 1936-
Eggleston, MacDonald & Secomb 1954-

Eggleston enjoyed a prominent career within the profession, and is remembered today in the continuation of his firm as Eggleston Macdonald. He was president of the RVIA in 1937-38, and died in 1955.

ANALYSIS

A number of substantial residences drawing inspiration from the English Domestic Revival of the late nineteenth century, were built in the Toorak area during the early part of this century. The principal architects of the English Domestic Revival included Phillip Webb, Richard Norman Shaw (1831-1912) and his large circle of associates, and CFA Voysey (1857-1941).

The design of 13 Tintern Avenue draws extensively upon the work of CFA Voysey, most notably, The Cottage at Bishop's Itchington (1888-9), evident in the composition of its hipped and skillion roofs and plain building masses.

The house at 13 Tintern Avenue is unusual in that it avoids the half timbering typical to Melbourne examples and achieves its medieval and vernacular associations through strongly geometric, picturesque massing and the use of traditional modes of fenestration such as bay

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and casement windows. The entry is more conventional, drawing on the contemporary bungalow vocabulary of elements derived from Arts and Crafts sources.

Eggleston was not alone in Melbourne in designing in this mode, but appears to have developed a reasonably distinctive, relatively hard edged and prismatic formal expression which makes his work stand apart from the softer, cottage associations seen in work by contemporaries such as Rodney Alsop and Ashworth & Oakley.[9]


STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The house at 13 Tintern Avenue is of regional significance as a fine example of detached house design from the first decade of this century. It is a relatively early surviving and substantially externally intact example of the English vernacular revival in Melbourne. The close association with successful Melbourne architect Alec Eggleston and its proximity to No 11 Tintern Avenue adds to this significance.

FOOTNOTES

- 1 National Trust of Australia (Victoria), 'Tintern', Toorak.
- 2 Tintern Estate subdivision plan, 1902, Prahran Archives.
- 3 MMBW drainage plan 13 Tintern Avenue.
- 4 Sands & McDougall directories, 1911-1934.
- 5 Undated wedding notice, Power family history file, Malvern Archives.
- 6 City of Prahran rate book, South Yarra ward, 1934-5, no. 3163 and Sands & McDougall directories, 1923-1951.
- 7 Australian Architectural Index, (Miles Lewis ed.) University of Melbourne, 1987.
- 8 'HGB' V1 4, October 1911, cover and pp 58-61.
- 9 See Clare, The post-Federation house, pp 40-51 for a discussion of the work of these architects.

REFERENCES

- City of Prahran rate book, South Yarra ward, 1934-5.
John Clare, The post-Federation House in Melbourne, unpublished research paper, Faculty of Architecture and Planning, University of Melbourne, 1984.
MMBW drainage plan 13 Tintern Avenue.
National Trust of Australia (Victoria), 'Tintern', Toorak.
Power family history file, Malvern Archives.
Sands & McDougall directories, 1911-1960. Tintern Estate subdivision plan, 1902, Prahran Archives.
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Appendix 2 Hansen ADB

ADB for Windows © Melbourne University Press

HANSEN, MARTIN PETER (1874-1932), educationist, was born on 24 January 1874 at Crosbie, Victoria, third surviving child of Hans Truelsen Hansen, farmer, and his wife Caroline, née Hollander, both from Schleswig (Prussia). Educated at Toolleen primary school, he won a scholarship to Scotch College, Melbourne, where he boarded in 1887-89. He matriculated in November 1890. An unpaid junior teacher from August 1891 at Abbotsford primary school, he qualified as a teacher of military drill before entering on 18 July 1892 the Teaching Institute, where he obtained his Trained Teacher's Certificate and won the Gladman [q.v.4] prize for teaching. Hansen was appointed in July 1893 as head teacher at Cochrane Creek near Bealiba. Before he resigned in February 1895, he was commended for having greatly improved his school. After teaching at University High School for two years he rejoined the Education Department in December 1896 as assistant at Warrnambool. Next year he began duty as head teacher at Ripplebrook, Gippsland. In November he took charge of St Leonards and Paywit North schools on the Bellarine Peninsula but by 1898 was teaching full time at Paywit North. While in the country he pursued university studies, graduating B.A. (1898), LL.B. (1899) and M.A. (1900), and winning the Bowen [q.v.3] prize in 1898. On 5 February 1900 he resigned from the department to accept a position at Wesley College and, on 11 July at Woodford, he married Margaret Morgan, manager of a coffee palace at Warrnambool; they had a son. At Wesley Hansen began as a sports master and then became noted as a teacher of natural science. As first assistant master he did much of the organizing of the school and from April to November 1907 served as headmaster while Adamson [q.v.7] was overseas. Hansen helped to found the (Incorporated) Association of Secondary School Teachers of Victoria in 1904. He produced two successful textbooks on physics for schools and with Alfred Hart [q.v.] published *English ideals* (1903) and *Typical selections in prose and poetry* (1912); he collaborated with D. McLachlan in the 1912 publication of *An Austral garden: an anthology of verse*.

On 10 February 1909 Hansen rejoined the Education Department as inspector of registered teachers and schools and began his valuable association with Frank Tate [q.v.]. On 8 August he became chief inspector and chairman of classifiers of secondary schools. He went overseas in 1922-23 and on his return urged in a report on education in Britain and America the trial of the 'platoon' or notary system of organization in schools. He deplored the emergence in Victoria of a dual system of secondary and technical schools instead of one secondary multicourse establishment for each area. Hansen was assistant director of education from 1925 and acting director from 1927; on 25 June 1928 he succeeded Tate as director. Early next year he set up committees to plan the co-ordination of post-primary education but the antipathy of the minister, John Lemmon [q.v.], who refused approval for multi-purpose schools, combined with the onset of the Depression with harsh financial cut-backs, effectively destroyed the proposals. During 1930 Hansen set up a committee to investigate teaching techniques for use with visual education equipment. To a board of inquiry in 1931 he proposed the consolidation of schools in both city and country, the creation of separate classified rolls for primary, secondary and technical teachers, and the abolition of the time-honoured Merit Certificate. His term as director, however, was marked by a bitter ideological conflict with Donald Clark [q.v.8], chief inspector of technical schools, his opposition to the appointment of Julia Flynn [q.v.8] as chief inspector of secondary schools, and growing disharmony with his minister. His health suffered. But his last book, a collection of lectures delivered in Australia and New Zealand, *Thoughts that breathe* (1932), gave emphasis to the numerous educational reforms that he sought and to his belief that 'a spirit of joint responsibility, the sense of partnership, and the practice of mutual consultation' must be developed by teachers and students. He argued the need for 'the suppression of class consciousness and of individual greed'. Hansen had been appointed to the Council of the University of Melbourne in 1932. R. H. Croll [q.v.8] described him as an 'absolutely just person, sympathetic, firm in his judgments but a patient listener, a delightful companion, but never more ... than when the conversation took a bookish turn'. Over the years Hansen had kept up his interest in athletics. He had been president of the Wallaby Club, a member of the Beefsteak and Boobook clubs and for some ten years from 1905 secretary of the Melbourne Shakespeare Society. Hansen became ill in April 1932 but recovered and returned to work. After a relapse he died from duodenal haemorrhage at his home at Toorak on 11 December

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1932 and was buried in Boroondara cemetery.

R. J. W. Selleck,

Frank Tate: a biography (Melb, 1982); Education Dept (Vic), *Vision and realisation*, L. J. Blake ed (Melb, 1973); *Age*, 28 June 1928; *Herald* (Melb), 30 June 1928; Education Dept (Vic), Records (History section, Education Dept, Melb), p.2 and PRO (Vic). L. J. Blake Hardacre, Herbert Freemont (1861-1938)