

2.8 GLENFERRIE ROAD AREA

This main road is possibly the most important sequence of prestige housing of the 1920s and 1930s in Australia. Once the address of a series of vast estates including Glenferrie, Grosvenor, Malvern House, Moorakyne, Stonnington and Doona. Glenferrie Road was created by Robert Hoddles Survey of the suburbs of Melbourne, which created the original Crown Allotments and the main roads, such as Glenferrie Road and Toorak Road.

The area extends from the railway line to Malvern Road and subdivisions include:

1888-89: Great Toorak Estate Toorak Estate, Warra Street to Power Avenue (Alway Plan)

1907: Malvern House, Hamilton Avenue and Moorakyne Estate (Alway Plan, 2/13)

1929: Doona Estate, Church Street to Stonnington Place (Alway Plan, 3/127 A,B,C)

Glenferrie Road; Toorak Road to the railway line

This section includes a significant sequence of inter-war houses and apartment blocks. These include 424 Glenferrie Road (Denby Dale), 404 Glenferrie Road (one of Desbrowe Annear's most important houses), El Tovar (corner Monomeath Avenue) and Melville Court (corner of Power Street) and other substantial houses constructed either in the Georgian Revival character of the 1920s or a late Edwardian character. Immediately outside the area are some other buildings of note, the shops and signal box of the railway crossing.

The predominantly low fences are important features. They comprise clinker brick (and tapestry brick in the case of Denby Dale), rough stone work or low rough cast finished walls, some with hedges. A distinctive entry pergola highlights No 406.

The rising land from the Gardiner's Creek valley, the historic landscape character of the reserve on the west side and a number of large eucalypts, including several indigenous river red gums, *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (possibly pre white settlement) create a distinctive character to this block. The area is also characterised by a general absence of intrusive developments, there is only one block of 1950s walk-up flats. Two other later developments are also harmonious, one at the corner of Monaro Road the other a Merchant Builders scheme at No 416.

Glenferrie Road, Malvern Road to Toorak Road

A strong landscape character defines this block. On the crest of the hill are several very old large indigenous *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* which provide a link with those in the block to the north. There are a number of large exotic trees, some apparently surviving from the large gardens that once dominated this block, of which only Stonnington remains. One of Melbourne's last city mansion properties, Stonnington provides a strong nineteenth century character with the large garden, many large and very old trees and the opulent mansion, a former State Government House for 27 years after Federation.

Architecturally this block provides a range of buildings that is now among the most important sequence of large 1920s houses in Melbourne. The importance of these buildings was recognised at the time of their construction by the contemporary journals.

The housing stock has a diverse character. There are a number of large roofed residences, with the complex hip and gable forms of the Old English style and the more restrained Georgian Revival forms, as exemplified by Desbrowe Annear's Katanga and 401 Glenferrie Road designed by Blackett and Forster (with an Edna Walling landscape). No 377 (architect Joseph Plottel) is conspicuous for dramatic massing of gable roof forms and the angled siting. The most architecturally distinctive building is perhaps No 395, Beaver and Purnell's Prairie style Rahnmoor.

The extensive use of clinker brick for most buildings in the Old English style, contrasts with the other buildings using rough cast finish or rendered texture or render with ornamented embellishments. The quality of detail in the Old English style buildings is further exemplified by the use of terracotta shingles in a number of buildings such as Nos 409, 376 and 429. Of particular interest are some of the earlier Edwardian era buildings (created by the 1888 Great Toorak Estate subdivision) including No 384 which has unusual detailing of the perforated brick work parapet. The Malvern Hotel brings an early nineteenth century character to this prominent corner at Malvern Road resulting from the early date of subdivision of this location.

This block is also important for the large number of significant fences. No 377 has unusual Egyptian-style fence piers. This is complemented by No 391 nearby, another distinctive fence that has closely spaced rough cast piers connected with pipe sections and prismatic shaped capitals; it is possibly the most unique fence in this area and possibly Malvern. The rough cast piers of No 395 complement the blocky Prairie-style house. The fence at Stonnington is a massive cast iron and masonry structure enhanced by grand entrance gates and distinctive gate lodge. Further north are a series of fences of interest from No 368 (clinker brick), the Katanga fence (with unpainted sand coloured render) and No 376 clinker brick and tapestry brick.

The whole block is relatively free of intrusive developments and there are few intrusive fences. This is a sequence of buildings of which Malvern, as a municipality, can be extremely proud.

Buildings of outstanding significance include the following:

Katanga, 372 Glenferrie Road; Harold Desbrowe Annear
 377 Glenferrie Road; Joseph Plottel
 395 Glenferrie Road; Purnell and Beaver
 404 Glenferrie Road; Harold Desbrowe Annear
 Denby Dale, 424 Glenferrie Road; Robert Hamilton and Associates, Marcus Norris
 Carn Brae, 429 Glenferrie Road; Eric Beedham

Other significant buildings include:

328 Glenferrie Road
 330 Glenferrie Road
 374 Glenferrie Road: Cowper, Murphy and Appleford
 376 Glenferrie Road
 382 Glenferrie Road: Schreiber & Jorgensen
 384 Glenferrie Road
 387 Glenferrie Road (Cnr Russell Street); Oakden Ballantyne & Hare
 390 Glenferrie Road
 394 Glenferrie Road
 401 Glenferrie Road: Blackett and Forster
 410 Glenferrie Road: Cowper Murphy and Appleford
 428 Glenferrie Road: Walter Mason
 431 Glenferrie Road
 453 Glenferrie Road: Arthur Barnes
 459 Glenferrie Road: Arthur Barnes