

Stanhope Street Boom style villas

44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54 and 56 Stanhope Street

44 Stanhope Street (Roma)

1887: Wright Land (9 rms.)

1888: Scott, John (ironmonger) Hse. & land

1889: Mellor Alf. Bk. hse. 7 r.

46 Stanhope Street (Branskea)

1887: Major, Ed. 9r Bk. H.

1888: Major, Ed. L. (acc.) Hse. & land

1889: Major Edw. Bk. hse. 8 r.

48 Stanhope Street (Coimboon)

1889: Patterson Thomas Bk. 5 r.

50 Stanhope Street (Inverleith)

1889: Scott J. Bk. 7 r.

52 Stanhope Street (Darjeeling)

1889: Palmer Ed. Bk. 8 r.

54 Stanhope Street (Castledon)

1889: Williams Bk. hse. in prog.

56 Stanhope Street (Hintonville)

1889: Huntzman Benj. Bk. hse in prog.

(Malvern Rate Books)

NOTE: John Wright appears to be the builder for many of these houses. he is listed as owning several of the lots before construction of the houses. The name of the houses appeared in the rate books in 1894.

1902: Shows this sequence of villas in their original configuration. 40' to the inch plan (MMBW Drainage Plan 1743)



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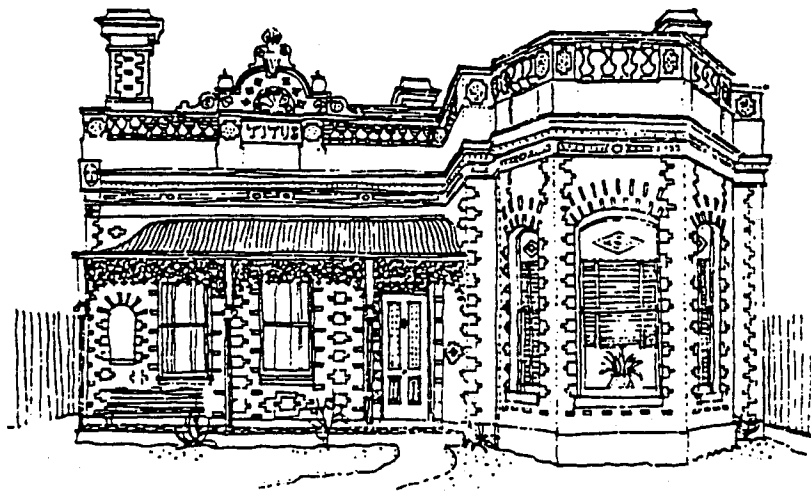
These buildings were first listed in street directories in 1889 and are an excellent example of the richly-decorated suburban villa of the period. They have been used by many people, including Robin Boyd in *Australia's Home* (1), see below, to illustrate an extreme of the Boom style of the late 1880s. They all feature a projecting bay (typically angled) as well as a balustraded parapet to the roof facing the street with a semi-circular pediment and a scalloped shield motif above the house name. Singly, and without the projecting bay they would be typical of a number of single storey terrace houses in places such as North Carlton. However, the projecting bay with the same balustrade creates a far more elaborate composition. They also feature decorative polychrome brick work beneath the balustraded parapet and elaborate cornice and as well as a hipped cast iron verandah. Whilst these buildings are not all identical, they all share a number of common features. They vary in their integrity and the best examples are No 56 and No 50.

It has been suggested by Miles Lewis that these villas have some similarity to the work of Norman Hitchcock and/or Olaff Nicholson although no tender references have been found to establish a designer. (2)

The villas at 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54 and 56 Stanhope Street are of regional significance as a unique group that demonstrates the stylistic excesses and flamboyance of the late Boom period. Here, a successful design expression for terrace houses, was translated into a suburban villa format.

1 Robin Boyd, *Australia's Home*, MUP. 1961, p.54.

2 Correspondence to the Malvern Historical Society Inc, 18 August 1992



Major Steps of Stylism (5)

Boom Style. In the late eighties and early nineties, ornamentation lay heavily on the façade. The slate roof was hidden behind a stucco balustrated parapet, brown, red, and cream brick patterning predominated, with a cast-iron verandah, brown venetian blinds, and vivid coloured-glass side and top panels to the front door.



46



48

48

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