

Carrington, 58 Kooyong Road - R

Architect: Alfred Dunn

c.1887: Plans prepared by Alfred Dunn for T E Moran - these show floor plans and two elevations (Alfred Dunn practiced in Melbourne from 1883 - 1894. Miles Lewis, Architectural Survey, 1977)

1902: The MMBW plan shows additional outbuildings other than the shed and washhouse and earth closet of the original building. This included a trellis fernery on the south boundary at the rear and a stable building extending across the rear boundary with a coach house adjacent to the side street as well as a photo studio. The original path layout of the front garden in asphalt was also shown in the architect's plan. (MMBW 40' to inch drainage plan)

1911-29: Moran, Mrs Eliz. R

1947: Kooyong Guest House, Warden, Mrs G M

1969-74: Kooyong Private Hospital, Warden H R
(Malvern Historical Society Inc)

In 1876 Thomas Edwin Moran commenced trading as a grocer in Queensbury Street, North Melbourne. By 1881 a branch shop had been opened at Fitzroy. The partnership between Moran and his cousin from New Zealand, Fred J Cato, was immediately successful. The responsibility of directing the rapidly growing organisation fell on F J Cato, when T E Moran died in 1890, at the age of only 39 years. By 1898 there were 50 branch stores and 60 by 1906.

Approximately three years before his death, Thomas Moran's house, Carrington, had been built in Kooyong Road, Armadale. Designed by Architect Alfred Dunn, the house stands today on the corner of Inverness Avenue. Moran's widow Elizabeth and their five children continued to live in the house for many years. Mrs Moran kept cows at Kooyong Road and every year from 1896, they (people and cows!) went by ship to Portarlington where the family spent the summer holidays.

This imposing two storey boom style Italianate villa is of a relatively conventional design other than the pyramidal roof over the entry porch and upstairs bathroom. The building has a hipped slate roof, imposing stuccoed chimneys with elaborate mouldings and flue fins, bracketed eaves, cornices at eaves level as well as first floor level and moulded arched window hood moulds. The building has a two storey return cast iron verandah on the south-west side and the north-west corner is dominated by a wide projecting angled bay. In 1992, the building retained an early picket fence in which the principal spade headed pickets formed a top lapped picket, over a simpler and lower picket behind. The corner post had a distinctive Edwardian character. The basalt gateway and iron gates were built in the 1980s and a massive cypress hedge concealed much of the fence and the house. The house is substantially intact other than the modern gate, gateway, and corrugated iron fence with repetitive cast iron cappings. The hedge has been removed.

58 Kooyong Road is of regional significance as an important surviving two storey Victorian mansion in this section of Kooyong Road. A number of similar buildings opposite have now been demolished and replaced by flats. It also provides a link with the prominent Moran family associated with the grocery trade.