

**Revell, 9 Toorak Avenue - S**

Architect: Edward F Billson

1920: E H Pearse Esq. Dwelling Toorak Avenue, Malvern Edward Fielder Billson  
Architect, 395 Collins St. Melbourne (Malvern Building Plan 2238)

This two storey residence has a low pitched hipped roof with a wide, low chimney on the ridge line. It has boxed eaves with exaggerated overhangs. The simple repetition of casement windows and vertical piers provides a character common to most Prairie style houses. It is likely that the roof was originally clad in unglazed cement tiles with unpainted rough cast finish on the walls. In 1992, the planked timber fence contributed to the building's character. The building was apparently intact other than the modern glazed terracotta tile roof and the painting of the building a uniform white colour that detracted from its compositional elements. The only notable change since 1992 has been the removal of the fence.

Edward Fielder Billson, who practised in the inter-war period, is best known for his working association with Walter Burley Griffin. In conjunction with others of the office, such as J.F.W. Ballantyne and Eric Nicholls, as well as Griffin himself, this group established the Prairie school in Melbourne.

9 Toorak Avenue, designed by Edward Billson in the Prairie style, is of state significance as one of the most important surviving examples of the Prairie style school in Melbourne.