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# GLYN



GLYN SOHE 2008



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1 glyn kooyong road toorak  
front view

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## Location

224 KOOYONG RD TOORAK, STONNINGTON CITY

## Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0735

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO68

## VHR Registration

May 10, 1989

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 17, 1999

What is significant?

Glyn was designed in 1908 by the noted architect Rodney H. Alsop for Sir Edward Miller. The house was constructed in the Arts and Crafts idiom, finished with a distinctive render with pebbles pushed into the surface. This finish was complemented by a terracotta shingle roof. The interior contains many distinctive Arts and Crafts features, such as carved woodwork, stained glass and beaten metal ornamentation.

How is it significant?

Glyn is architecturally and historically significant to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

Glyn is architecturally significant as one of the finest examples of Arts and Crafts movement architecture in Victoria, and for its associations with one of the movement's best practitioners, Rodney Alsop (1881-1932). Alsop was influenced by English architects such as Voysey and Lutyens who in turn were working in the tradition established by Ruskin and Morris in the 1850s. Alsop was a founding member of the Arts and Crafts Society of Victoria and played a major role in the introduction of the style into Victoria in the early 1900s. The Arts and Crafts movement drew together amateur and professional artists, architects, educators and craftspeople. Architecturally, the movement emphasised picturesque massing, references to vernacular architecture and the exposure of building materials and textures. All these elements are evident in Glyn. The original fireplaces, light fittings, switch plates and joinery were rare examples of English arts and crafts influence in Australia, although some of these features have been lost in alterations in recent decades. The arts and crafts influence is further reflected in the different decorative treatment of each room. An interesting Australian touch is the eucalypt decorative scheme in the main hall, stair hall, entrance hall and upstairs gallery. The Arts and Crafts movement in Australia encouraged the use of Australian materials and motifs, reflecting burgeoning nationalism around the time of Federation and the movement's belief in the necessity of a locally authentic form of decoration. As a committed Arts and Crafts practitioner, Alsop not only designed houses, he engaged in their decoration, with built-in furniture, carved woodwork, stained glass of his own design, and beaten metal ornamentation often made with his own hands. Alsop envisaged his houses as all-encompassing designs and works of art, and Glyn is a fine instance of this philosophy. Alsop was a successful and important architect. He received several important commissions, including Edrington at Berwick and Wombat Park in Daylesford. He worked on the designs for T&G Buildings in Australia and New Zealand and won the worldwide competition for the University of WA's Hackett Buildings, for which he was to receive the 1932 Bronze Medal from the Royal Institute of British Architects, the first such award to an Australian architect for an Australian building.

Glyn is of historical significance for its associations with the Miller family. Sir Edward Miller (1848-1923), for whom the house was built, was at one stage Melbourne's leading banking, insurance and real estate figure, and MLC for South Yarra. He lived in the house until his death in 1932, after which it was occupied by his widow and then by his son, Everard Studley Miller, philanthropist, art patron and collector, who lived in it until his own death in 1956. The house reflects the Miller family's wealth and status, as well as being a physical manifestation of their deep interest in the arts.

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

Construction dates	1908,
Architect/Designer	Alsop, Rodney H,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	1163
Property Number	

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## History

Contextual History:History of Place:

The Arts and Crafts movement was formalised relatively late in Victoria with the establishment of the Arts and Crafts Society of Victoria in 1908, a small group of craftsmen, artists and architects. In England the Guild of Handicraft was formed in 1888 and disbanded in 1909. Rodney Alsop was prominent in the Victorian movement, and his arts and crafts pedigree can be traced to his visit to England and through his friend and fellow architect Walter Butler, who had worked in England with noted Arts and Crafts exponents Ernest Gimson and WR Lethaby. The Art Nouveau movement was also an influence on Alsop, and as a 17 year-old he visited the the 1900 Paris Exposition where the burgeoning style, first developed in the early 1890s in France and Belgium, was displayed. (C.Miley, *The Decorative Art of Rodney Alsop*, *The Australian Antique Collector*, June 1986, pp78-80)  
Associated People: Sir Edward Miller, MLC for South Yarra 1892-1904

## Extent of Registration

AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 735

Glyn

224 Kooyong Road, Toorak

to the extent of all of the buildings and the land included in the Register Book Certificate of Title Volume 9653 Folio 738.

[*Victoria Government Gazette* G18 10 May 1989 p.1138]

*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*