

Formerly Mount View (now Ruyton Girls School)



City of Kew Urban
Conservation Study 1988

Location

12 Selbourne Road KEW, BOROONDARA CITY

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO205

HO150

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Significance of Individual Property

The former 'Mount View' is of significance as the house built by the leading architect Frederick de Garis for his own use and for having remained in a substantially intact state. The bold use of the Italianate with the cast iron balustrades for decoration and the intact state of the fountain and pond are integral to the significance.

The Glenferrie Road Precinct, Kew, is an area of heritage significance for the following reasons:

- The western parts of this precinct are marked by mansion development of the Victorian period, and though some are surrounded by unsympathetic later development, a significant number of individually significant early Kew mansions survive here, albeit in some cases converted to institutional uses. This is one of three notable mansion precincts in Kew, the others being HO158 (Walmer Street) and HO162 (Sackville Street).
- The eastern section of the precinct is significant for its mixture of small and medium scale Victorian housing, much of which relates to two important 1880s estates : Edgevale and Doona Hill.
- The area has a strong visual connection with several fine assemblages of school buildings: either in its midst (Ruyton) or at its borders (Trinity, Xavier, Methodist Ladies' College).
- The area includes the former Kew civic buildings and the Sacred Heart Church and School, both in Cotham Road, the latter important to the considerable Roman Catholic heritage in the area.
- The area also includes the entire Glenferrie Road streetscape north of Barkers Road up to Wellington Street, including two of MLC's most important buildings and a mixed 1880s to interwar streetscape.
- The area includes a number of individually significant architectural designs, the majority of which are Victorian mansions.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Balwyn Road Residential Heritage Study Review, RBA Architects & Conservation Consultants, 2006;
Architect/Designer	De Garis, Frederick,
Other Names	Sometimes known as 8 Selbourne Road, Kew, Formerly Mount View,
Hermes Number	22326
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Documentary evidence records that the original owner and occupier of this substantial two-storey house was architect Frederick de Garis [3] In 1888 the property attracted an N.A.V. of £115 [4] while by 1903 it was known as 'Mount View' [5]. The house is typical of the late Victorian period in it being clad in render and styled in the Italianate. It has an asymmetrical composition with polygonal bay windows extending up both floors, to each of the main facades. The ground floor 1& heavily incised with banded rustication, while the first floor is distinguished by the cast iron balustrades to each window. The fountain and pond in the garden appear to be those depicted in the 1903 MMBW plan of the property. As an example of de Garis's work, the house is relatively restrained in its ornamentation.

References --

1 City of Kew, Rate Books, 1888

2 ibid.

3 ibid. This is contrary to information contained in D.Rogers that the house was originally built for John Inglis,

4 ibid.

5 M.M.B.W., 'Plan of Kew - 1574', Scale: 40 feet to 1 inch, May 1903

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/>