
House, 762 Orrong Road, Toorak

Location

762 Orrong Road TOORAK, Stonnington City

Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO90

Heritage Listing

Stonnington City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

This 2-storey 1924 Spanish Mission residence, designed by the architects Irwin and Stevenson, has state architectural significance as a luxurious example of the use of the work of this firm and of the residential application of this style which became, popular in Melbourne during the inter-war period. The house has design significance, illustrating the variety of building styles found within the City of Prahran. The oak tree in front of the house possibly dates from an earlier period and contributes to the setting.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - Conservation Review City of Prahran Volume 2: Individual Buildings (A1), Context Pty Ltd, 1993;
Construction dates	1924,
Architect/Designer	Irwin & Stevenson,
Hermes Number	30676
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The two storey residence is located on raised foundations with northern aspect addressing Orrong Road and the facade shaded by a large oak. Terracotta Cordova roof tiles contrast with the white rendered walls and the blue painted detailing. A sloping driveway and steps lead to the cubic form of the entrance porch and balcony containing two round arches with typical Spanish Mission jamb frieze and honeycomb tracery in the highlight. The arches are repeated in the side veranda to the rear of the house. The windows are simple multi-paned casements complete with folding shutters. The facade closest to the street has double doors opening out onto a small balcony which is evocative of Mediterranean architecture. The interior was described recently as mainly English Club style, however details such as the black and white tiled floor and jarrah floorboards in the dance room suggest typical Spanish features.¹ Overall, this residence and its garden, setting create a superb example of the colourful and romantic fascination with Spanish Mission architecture which reflects the influence of the Arts and Crafts movement in domestic architecture and also the desire to imitate the glamour of American stylistic trends in the 1920s.

The garden is regarded as of importance for a specimen of *Quercus robur*, which is thought to survive from an earlier 19th century garden.²

References

1. *The Age*, 20 Nov 92.
2. *City of Prahran, Significant Tree and Garden Study*.

Local Historical Themes

8.4.1 Houses as a symbol of wealth, status and fashion

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/>