

Whernside Mansion

Location

2A Whernside Avenue TOORAK, Stonnington City

Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO117

Heritage Listing

Stonnington City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Belcroft is of local significance as one of the few remaining large nineteenth century Toorak mansions which once graced this area. The major remodelling of 1919 and 1929 have considerably altered the original character of this building. The significance now derives from the association with Annear and Serlian trademark and the historical association of former occupants.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - City of Malvern Heritage Study, Nigel Lewis and Richard Aitken P/L, 1992;
Construction dates	1876, 1929,
Architect/Designer	Annear, Harold Desbrowe,
Other Names	2A Whernside Ave, Toorak, Belcroft Mansion,

Hermes Number 30698

Property Number

Physical Description 1

A large two storey remodelled stuccoed Italianate mansion set in large grounds with some remaining mature trees. The bulky proportions of this building are a result of several alterations. The original design (shown in the 1907 MMBW drainage plan) shows a large but typical double bayed Italianate villa with two storey return veranda. A single storey wing extended to the south. In 1919 the building was dramatically remodelled. The veranda (possibly arcaded) was removed and replaced with only a small balcony remaining at both levels closest to the entry. At this date the rear service wings and presumably the extensive stabling were demolished. There is no indication of the treatment of the remaining section of balcony but in 1929 Harold Desbrowe-Annear incorporated his now familiar Serlian screen over the entry. (Refer to Appendix One for biographical details of architect.) The property has a new fence and garage, all executed in rendered masonry in an attempt to emulate the stuccoed character of the house.

Local Historical Themes

8.1.2 Seats of the mighty - mansion estates in the nineteenth century 6.3 Constructing capital city economies
3.5.2 Creating a cosmopolitan society - twentieth century immigration 10.3.6 Philanthropists and charity workers

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/>