

MOSSPENNOCH (MOSSPENNOCK)



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2008



1 mosspennock clarendon
street east melb corner view



philadelphia robertson house
clarendon street east
melbourne entrance oct1999



philadelphia robertson house
clarendon street east
melbourne porch detail
oct1999



Mosspennoch_KathleenFitzpat



h00420 mosspennock plan

Location

22-40 CLARENDON STREET EAST MELBOURNE, MELBOURNE CITY

Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0420

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO130

VHR Registration

August 31, 1977

Amendment to Registration

April 17, 2003

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - April 17, 2003

Why is it significant?

Mosspennock is an Italianate mansion of render on brick construction built for James Purves. The north wing designed by Charles Webb, is a two storied double fronted facade with a solid arcaded verandah and balcony made up of a central entrance pavilion flanked by two gently projecting bows. There is a balustrade at balcony level and a balustraded parapet.

The subsequent expansion of the building by Purves to the north, south and east was probably not to Webb's design. Internally the building is a complex one with extensive modifications. The whole building was further substantially altered in the 1930s and 1940s.

How is it significant?

Mosspennock is of architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria.

What is significant?

Mosspennock is architecturally significant as one of the residential works of architect Charles Webb. It has stylistic ties with Webb's celebrated design for Mandeville Hall at Toorak and was the largest dwelling in East Melbourne until 1887 when Cliveden was erected on an adjacent site. Webb was the designer of the Alfred Hospital (1869), Royal Arcade (1869) and the Grand Hotel, later known as the Windsor (1884).

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](#).

Specific Exemptions:

Buildings and works to remove alterations and additions (both internal and external) after 1903.

Construction dates	1881,
Architect/Designer	Webb, Charles,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	Mosspennoch, PHILDELPHIA ROBERTSON HOUSE,
Hermes Number	357
Property Number	

History

Contextual History:

There was little development of East Melbourne before 1852 as the area remained reserved by the government long after Fitzroy, Collingwood and Richmond were made available for development. In 1848 Bishop Perry chose the area for his Anglican Bishop's Palace overlooking the Fitzroy Gardens. The first public land sales in East Melbourne took place in June 1852, when 20 allotments were sold off. Between 1852 and 1870 a total of 299 crown allotments were sold off.

Development took off in the late 1850s after the gold rush subsided. Many terraces were built for rental and lodging. The residential area known as Yarra Park was bounded by Wellington Parade, Vale Street and Punt Road. It was the site of the original police barracks but was subdivided in the 1880s. (Ashton and Wilson, East Melbourne Conservation Study 1975)

Jame Liddell Purves became a QC in 1886 and he was involved in a wide number of speculator court cases. In 1892 he defended directors of the Premier Building Association, in 1892 Charles and Earnest Clarke of the Land

Credit Bank, and in 1896 directors of the City Bank. One of the City Bank directors, Jenkin Collier was a long-term neighbour of Purves. He also defended the Age Newspaper in 1894 in a libel case brought by the Victorian Railways.

(ADB, Vol.5 pp.459-61)

History of Place:

Associated People: James Liddell Purves, QC

Extent of Registration

All the buildings known as Mosspennoch located at 22-40 Clarendon Street, East Melbourne and all of the land on which they are sited entered in Certificate of Title Volume 6132, Folio 257.

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No.G16 17 April 2003 p.788]

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/>