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## Residence



2 Irving Road, Toorak



Recommended extent of heritage overlay at 2 Irving Road, Toorak.

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### Location

2 Irving Road TOORAK, STONNINGTON CITY

### Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

## Heritage Listing

Stonnington City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Note that the relevant HERCON criteria are shown in brackets.

#### *What is Significant?*

The house at 2 Irving Road, Toorak is a large rendered masonry double-storey building constructed in 1922 to designs by the noted architectural firm Sydney Smith and Ogg. The house was built on land subdivided in 1886 from the Victorian mansion estate 'Devorgilla' (later Larundel).

Elements that contribute to the significance of the place include (but are not limited to):

- The original external form, materials and detailing
- The high level of external intactness.
- The domestic garden setting (but not the fabric of the garden itself).
- The legibility of the original built form from the public realm.

Modern elements, including the rear additions, verandah infill glazing, landscaping and front boundary wall, are not significant.

#### *How is it significant?*

The house at 2 Irving Road, Toorak is of local architectural significance to the City of Stonnington.

#### *Why is it significant?*

The house is architecturally significant as an imposing, distinctive and largely intact interwar residence combining the stripped classical idiom with bungalow overtones (Criterion E).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - City of Stonnington Interwar Houses Study, Bryce Raworth Pty Ltd, 2014;
Construction dates	1922,
Architect/Designer	Sydney Smith & Ogg,
Hermes Number	197698
Property Number	

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### Physical Description 1

The property at 2 Irving Road, Toorak is occupied by a boldly modelled, double-storey house with unpainted rendered walls and a hipped terracotta tiled roof. Stylistically, the house presents as a distinctive hybrid of the interwar stripped classical and bungalow idioms. The house's projecting front bay is conceived as a symmetrical double-storey verandah with curved first floor balconies supported on simple console brackets. Wreath motifs under the eaves reinforce the house's classical character. The corner wall adjacent to the verandah has timber-framed sash windows on both levels with timber shingle spandrels. Chimneys have interesting stylised detailing.

The facade is substantially intact apart from the enclosure of the first floor verandah with windows detailed to reflect the house's original multi-pane sashes. The c2011 additions are visually low-key and have not diminished the integrity of the original design. The additions, which are flat roofed and contemporary in style, are generally concealed from the street apart from a projecting single-storey wing on the south side of the house. The c2011 works also involved the demolition of a single-storey rear wing and an existing carport to the south side of the house. Landscaping works were undertaken around the same time including a driveway with a tilt up ramp concealing a carparking space. The imposing rendered masonry front boundary wall was rebuilt c2008 but may have replicated an existing (possibly original or early) wall that is partly visible in a 1992 photograph of the site.[1]

[1] City of Prahran Conservation Study Building Identification Form.

## Local Historical Themes

The house at 2 Irving Road, Toorak illustrates the following themes, as identified in the *Stonnington Thematic Environmental History* (Context Pty Ltd, 2006):

8.1.3 The end of an era - mansion estate subdivisions in the twentieth century

8.4.1 Houses as a symbol of wealth, status and fashion

The house is of some historical interest as evidence of a major phase of development that took place in first few decades of the twentieth century when many of Toorak's large mansion estates were subdivided to create prestigious residential enclaves (TEH 8.1.3 The end of an era - mansion estate subdivisions in the twentieth century). It also illustrates the role of large architect designed houses in the fashionable Georgian revival style as symbols of wealth, status and taste for Melbourne's upper classes of the interwar period (TEH 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/>*