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# ASCOT HOUSE



Essendon Conservation  
Study 1985

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## Location

50-52 FENTON STREET,, ASCOT VALE VIC 3032 - Property No 173853

## Municipality

MOONEE VALLEY CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO54

## Heritage Listing

Moonee Valley City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Architecturally, a mixture of periods but dominantly of the late Victorian period Italianate style with some impressive decorative elements internally but only intermediate external integrity: of regional interest.

Historically, with 300 Queen Street (1852-9) connected to the notable John Smith (and later colourful personalities) but in a lesser period of his achievements and having little integrity to the period of his life there (-1879). Perhaps more pertinent as a major local reception centre for much of this century, as the home of local

identity A.A. Fenton and as the only known house in Essendon constructed by a grantee on his grant: of regional importance.

Heritage Study/Consultant Moonee Valley - Essendon Conservation Study, Graeme Butler, 1985;  
Construction dates 1859, 1880, 1920,  
Hermes Number 23960  
Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

Externally, a building with many construction stages evident, ranging from the 1860s to the 1920s. Rubble basalt walls, 'with brick trim to openings, may be seen comprising the lower storey of what was the main facade (east), along with stuccoed brickwork directly above it forming two room bays joined by a former verandah (since replaced). It appears that the north-east bay and basement is the earliest section and that the south-east matching bay was added in the 1880s. Late Victorian, period cast-iron verandahs and ornate stucco ornament have been applied on the 'new' entrance facing Mt. Alexander Road and neo-classic styled details of the porte cochere show a further stage of work, this century, probably coupled with the extension of the verandah.

Although substantially of mature exotic specimens, the garden, appears to derive from generally this century, in particular, the perimeter rockery and cypress rows. Pines near the south boundary may date from the 19th century.

## Integrity

Given the effect of each major construction stage on the other, the following are considered disruptive to both. The west verandah has been extended in width: the basalt and brickwork on the north-east have been painted: and a major extension has been made on the east.

## Physical Description 2

### Streetscape

Isolated by mature planting and set back; recognisable as the 'first house' on the estate.

*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/>*