

La Chaumiere



219 Kooyong Road, Toorak



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Front entrance to 219 Kooyong Road, c1934.



Recommended extent of heritage overlay for 219 St Georges Road, Toorak.

Note that the relevant HERCON criteria are shown in brackets.

What is Significant?

La Chaumiere, 219 Kooyong Road, Toorak is a large double-storey interwar house with a hybrid French provincial/English Domestic revival character. It was constructed in 1932 to designs by prolific interwar architects A & H L Peck, on land subdivided from the grounds of the c1891 mansion Dalmeny.

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

- The original external form, materials and detailing.
- The plain rendered walls surfaces with contrasting clinker brick dressings.
- The high level of external intactness.
- The legibility of the original built form.
- The domestic garden setting (but not the fabric of the garden itself).

Fabric introduced since the post war period, including the altered garage area and c2000 rear alterations and additions, is not significant.

How is it significant?

La Chaumiere, 219 Kooyong Road, Toorak is of local architectural significance to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

La Chaumiere is architecturally significant as a fine and largely intact example of the French Provincial variant of the interwar English Domestic Revival style (Criterion D). It eschews most of the replica medieval style embellishments of the archetypal half-timbered Old English style in favour of strongly modelled roof forms and austere simplicity in decoration.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - City of Stonnington Interwar Houses Study, Bryce Raworth Pty Ltd, 2014;
Hermes Number	197687
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The site at 219 Kooyong Road is substantial double-storey English Domestic Revival style house with strong French provincial overtones. The principal roof is hipped and clad in terracotta shingles with three first-floor dormer windows breaking through the eaves line. External walls have a smooth rendered finish with contrasting clinker brick dressings to the windows sills and around the main entry providing a restrained form of ornament. The main entry is located at the base of a circular tower with a conical roof. Staggered windows to the east side of the tower mark the location of an internal staircase. The aesthetic qualities of the house are enhanced by its terraced garden setting and elevated siting.

Council building files show that alterations and additions were made to the rear of the house c2000.[1] These works involved the conversion of the original garage into a laundry, along with partial demolition and the construction of double-storey hipped roofed additions. The front facade appears to have remained unchanged at this time apart from the replacement of a window with sympathetically designed French doors. These changes have not adversely impacted on the character of the house as it presents to the street.

[1] City of Stonnington Property File. 25905BL.

Local Historical Themes

La Chaumiere, 219 Kooyong Road, Toorak illustrates the following themes, as identified in the *Stonnington Thematic Environmental History* (Context Pty Ltd, 2006, Addendum March 2009):

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

La Chaumiere is of some historical interest as evidence of a major phase of development that took place in the 1920s and 1930s when many of Toorak's grand nineteenth century 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). La Chaumiere also illustrates the role of architect designed houses 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/>