
HOUSE



618 Toorak Road, Toorak

Location

618 TOORAK ROAD, TOORAK, STONNINGTON CITY

Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO519

Heritage Listing

Stonnington City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The relevant HERCON criteria *are shown in brackets*.

What is Significant?

The large interwar Georgian revival style residence at 618 Toorak Road, Toorak was erected in 1925 by builder and architect Arnaud Wright. The house site was created from a subdivision of the nineteenth century Yar Orrong mansion estate.

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.
- The absence of modern garages and carports in views to the site from Toorak Road.

Modern fabric is not significant.

How is it significant?

The house at 618 Toorak Road is of local architectural significance to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

The house is architecturally significant as an impressive and highly intact example of a large house in the interwar Georgian revival style with Mediterranean overtones (Criterion D).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - City of Stonnington Interwar Houses Study, Bryce Raworth Pty Ltd, 2014;
Construction dates	1925,
Hermes Number	200328
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The building at 618 Toorak Road is an imposing double-storey Georgian revival style residence sited prominently on the hillside above Toorak Road. It has a hipped terracotta tiled roof punctuated by simply detailed chimneys with arched caps. Walls are rendered and generally unadorned apart from prominent quoining at the corners. Georgian antecedents are strongly expressed in the Classical style entry portico with a triangular pediment supported on columns. The whitewashed walls, irregular massing, arched chimney capping and wrought iron pedestrian gate provide Mediterranean overtones. The house also has multi-pane sash windows with shutters characteristic of the both the Mediterranean and Georgian revival idioms. The house appears to remain largely intact externally apart from the enclosure of a small first floor porch on the west elevation, and comparatively modest single-storey c1980 additions to the east elevation.

Local Historical Themes

The house at 618 Toorak 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 beginning around the end of the First World War 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). The place also illustrates the role of houses generally, and large Georgian revival houses in particular, 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/>