

## Carmelea



City of Darebin Heritage Review 2000



Map Ref: **31 A6**

NOT within Heritage Overlay Area.

City of Darebin Heritage Review 2000

### Location

43 Station Street NORTHCOTE, Darebin City

### Municipality

DAREBIN CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO80

## Heritage Listing

Darebin City

---

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Carmelea is of local architectural and historical significance. The building was the first major place of residence of prominent and successful businessman and philanthropist MacPherson Robertson, who established Australia's largest confectionery company. The house originally occupied expansive grounds which included a house for his daughter, No 31 Station Street.

The exterior is substantially intact, whose mixed character reflects the considerable 1913 alterations and additions made to the original 1893 fabric. Internally, original Victorian and later Edwardian interior fabric is evident in many areas, contributing to the building's significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant Darebin - Darebin Heritage Review, Andrew Ward, 2000;

Other Names Georgiana House,

Hermes Number 24223

Property Number

---

## Physical Description 1

Carmalea is a two-storey red brick house with a hipped slated roof. The house was constructed in 1893 and extensively altered in 1913. The tall red brick chimneys with moulded brick caps and barrelled tops date from the 1893 period, while much of the Station Street elevation, which includes a two-storey arcaded loggia, was constructed c1913. The slated window hoods and leadlighted rectangular bay windows were also added in 1913, replacing the 1893 bay window which originally faced Station Street.

Later alterations include the enclosing of the arcade at first floor level, formerly a sleep-out porch, a new fence erected, extensive additions made to the north and minor roof plumbing alterations carried out. The joinery has been painted in traditional colours.

The timber stables have been demolished and the grounds have been drastically reduced. No mature planting survives except outside the present property.

Internally, the front rooms appear to have been refurbished in the early twentieth century, presumably contemporary with the exterior alterations, and feature pressed metal ceilings patterned with plant motifs,

leadlight windows and fretted trusswork across the window bay. Timber mantles also remain from this period. Further to the east, the Victorian section is marked internally by the arches in the corridors, a staircase and a coloured glass window to the stair hall. Jacobean style decoration also survives to the large main room which occupies the whole south face of the original building. Here ceilings are coved with diaper-patterns, matching the character of the two mantles and remnant furnishings from the Robertson household. The interior was until recently substantially intact, with some superficial alterations to wall finishes and colours. Recent renovation and adaptation, to the design of Bates Smart & McCutcheon (1991), have diminished but not eliminated the original fabric.

*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/>*