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# Woodside House



19 Woodside Crescent

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## Location

19 Woodside Crescent TOORAK, Stonnington City

## Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO175

## Heritage Listing

Stonnington City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Woodside house, at 19 Woodside Crescent, Toorak, is locally significant historically:

- as part (the cellar and some external parts of the East wing) one of four known houses from the 1850s in the Toorak locality, that represent the first era of development in the area (Criterion A4); and
- for valuable and uncommon surviving external fabric from the late 19th century, specifically the west wing with its bayed plan, window joinery and shutters (specifically the shutters attached to the arched top-lights in the north

bay), and the south elevation of the east wing (Criterion B2).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - Heritage Overlay Review - Amendment C5, C6, Graeme Butler & Associates, 2003; Stonnington - Prahran Character and Conservation Study 1992, Nigel Lewis & Graeme Butler & Associates, 1992;
Construction dates	1853,
Other Names	19 Woodside Crescent, Toorak, Bowen House, Skinner House,
Hermes Number	30851
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The south facade of this one storey stuccoed villa is in two Italianate style sections. The eastern section (facade added probably 1880s) is parapeted with a new bullnose profile (former ogee profile) verandah extending across the front. The verandah has paired spiralled cast-iron posts, panelled cast-iron frieze and brackets. The parapet of this wing has piers surmounted with urns and a centrally placed, raised gabled entablature. Double-hung sash windows are arranged either side of a 4-panel front door, with its panelled side lights painted with portraits of women assumed to be female members of one of the occupying Victorian-era families. An impost moulding links each opening, rising over the windows in a label mould form. The verandah floor is tiled with encaustic mosaics and curving garden walls extend either side of the verandah entry steps, with Italianate cement garden urns on each terminating pier. The early east wing (1850s), formerly in an L-configuration prior to the west wing addition, has a lower ceiling and wall line than the 1880s west wing, as well as thicker walls. The two stages are clearly evident seen from the north. At the north end of the former L-plan are stone steps leading to a generous cellar with rubble stone walls.

The facade at the western end of the building (built in c1881-2) is also stuccoed but instead of a parapet, has expressed eaves. A central three-sided window bay is flanked by wide wall bays with associated openings in an unusual configuration for the era. Like the east wing, an impost mould links the segmenta-arched windows, rising to form an architrave with central keystone over each window. The bayed and faceted slate roof of this wing follows the complex plan form. Facing west are two projecting room bays, each with early fitted shutters to windows: this facade once faced the driveway entry to the house.

Both wings have similar cemented chimney mouldings. The facade treatment of both parts of the street elevation is from the late Victorian-era.

## Physical Description 2

### Interior

*(Not assessed.)*

The first description of the 1850s refers to brick and slate house of 8 rooms, increasing to 9 by 1859 and 10 by 1869: the present house has 10 rooms. By 1882 there were 14 rooms, an increase: this appears to have been the main redevelopment stage of the house that added the west wing, possibly in place of some existing rooms. The 1899 plan shows the cellar (first mentioned in the sale notice of 1885) as internal but this is now external at the north end of the house: evidently at least one room has been lost.

Now the interior is uniformly treated in a late Victorian-era manner, with typical timber and plaster mouldings from this era. Marble fireplaces with grates survive in some rooms. Most floors have been replaced with replacement huon pine boards, similar to the original, but one floor remains in the south-west corner room.

Some 5 rooms on the west have higher ceilings than those of the surviving three rooms of the east wing but two of these rooms have low ceilings corresponding with the lower roof line on the exterior: this appears to have been part of an L-shape early wing that linked the main house, as a bedroom or servants wing, with the cellar.

## **Integrity**

*(as assessed from the street)*

The recent front fence and hedge are related to the house period, with steel railings and rendered piers but partially obscure the house. The front verandah roof has been replaced in a bullnose form but the former ogee profile is visible in the wall plate attached to the house.

## **Local Historical Themes**

### **3.3.1 Crown land sales 1840-1850**

*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/>*