
Former Benvenuta



B0575 Benvenuta

Location

48 Drummond Street,, CARLTON VIC 3053 - Property No B0575

Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

Level of significance

State

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0409

Heritage Listing

National Trust

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 28, 2008

The former townhouse Benvenuta was erected in 1892-93 for Mrs Leah Abrahams, the widow of a small arms manufacturer. It was occupied by Mrs Abrahams until 1914 and the family sold the premises in 1949. The two storey rendered brick structure has a two tier arcade. The centrally located entrance is punctuated by a rounded pediment and tower. The interior is richly decorated. The architect was W S Law. Benvenuta is unique and an outstanding example of boom classicism. It is W S Law's greatest work and the finest building and centrepiece of the Drummond Street precinct. The usual townhouse comparison is accentuated in the typical boom manner by the trabeated system, pediments and tower. The profusion of fine stuccowork and mouldings is unsurpassed and epitomises the boom period. The magnificent griffin at the base of

the stairs, the stained glass, tiled floors and grand fence and gateway are distinctive features. The building now serves as a University Hall of Residence and an extensive bedroom/study wing has been added to the rear. The interior and exterior are intact and have recently been restored. The elaborate cast iron palisade fence with giant rendered brick piers is original.

Classified: 'Regional' 30/10/1958

Revised: 03/08/1998

Other Names Medley Hall,

Hermes Number 64775

Property Number

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/>