Statement of Significance: Wentworth, 294 Williams Road, Toorak, October 2023

Heritage Place: Wentworth, Toorak PS ref no: HO769



(Source: Extent Heritage Pty Ltd, 2021)

What is significant?

The property at 294 Williams Road, Toorak (otherwise known as Wentworth) is significant. Specifically, the form, scale, detailing and setback of the Victorian Italianate villa is of local significance. The landscaping, front boundary fence and later alterations and additions to the property are not significant.

How is it significant?

Wentworth is of local historical and aesthetic significance to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

Wentworth is historically significant in demonstrating the development of Late Victorian villas within Toorak during the late 19th century, following the wider subdivision of the Victorian era estates. The house is also of historical significance in demonstrating the residential development in the south eastern suburbs by Melbourne's wealthiest citizens during the 1880s land boom period. (Criterion A)

Wentworth is aesthetically significant as a well-articulated and intact example of a late Victorian Italianate villa. Key characteristics contributing towards this aesthetic value include its symmetry, double fronted façade, dichrome brick, hipped roof with polygonal bay window projections, triangular verandah pediment, chimneys with cornice mouldings and paired precast cowls, and decorative cast iron lacework. The aesthetic value of the place is also enhanced by its raised sitting on a short embankment, which contributes to the formal setting of the site. (Criterion E)

Primary source

Wentworth, 294 Williams Road, Toorak, Citation Report, Extent Heritage Pty Ltd, October 2023.