

12 Grosvenor Street, Moonee Ponds Statement of Significance April 2021

Heritage Place:	Sans Souci	PS ref no:	HO517
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12 Grosvenor Street, Moonee Ponds, principal elevation (April 2018) (source: Context, 2018)

What is significant?

'Sans Souci' at 12 Grosvenor Street, Moonee Ponds, a late Victorian era timber Italianate villa built 1881-1883 is significant.

Significant fabric includes the:

- single-storey asymmetric built form with a projecting bay;
- original hipped roof form and slate roofing;
- timber block and weatherboard cladding, bay window detailing and verandah decoration;
- original cement-rendered chimneys and eaves detailing; and
- original pattern of fenestration and elements of window joinery.

The skillion-roofed extension is not significant.

How is it significant?

'Sans Souci' at 12 Grosvenor Street, Moonee Ponds, is of local architectural significance to the City of Moonee Valley.

Why is it significant?

'Sans Souci' at 12 Grosvenor Street, Moonee Ponds, is significant as a Victorian-era Italianate house. It demonstrates the villa typology of the 1880s, being free-standing and more substantial than terrace housing, but not as large in scale as the two-storey mansion houses. The Victorian era and the Italianate style are well represented on the Moonee Valley Heritage Overlay. Nos 40-42 Vida Street, Aberfeldie (HO319), and 3 Aberfeldie Street, Essendon (HO143), are amongst many comparative examples of villas of this period. Although most villas are built of brick and timber examples are less common, a timber house at 42 Myross Avenue, Ascot Vale (HO225), is a solitary example on the Heritage Overlay.

12 Grosvenor Street, Moonee Ponds, demonstrates the attributes of the Italianate style through its form, materials and detail. It demonstrates the asymmetrical form of the Italianate style including a projecting room with canted bay and semi-octagonal hipped roof. The main hipped slate roof features three cement rendered chimneys. The weatherboard construction is embellished by a timber ashlar block frontage, whilst the verandah with timber post construction and cast-iron frieze is typical of the Italianate style and follows the plan of the bay window, returning along both sides of the house.

12 Grosvenor Street, Moonee Ponds, is a house of very high integrity being only slightly diminished by an extension to the rear, but with very few changes visible to original or early elements of the place. (Criterion D)

Primary source

Age, as cited.

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