Statement of Significance: Residence, 30 Darling Street, South Yarra (June 2026)

Heritage Place:	Residence 30 Darling Street, South Yarra	**PS ref no:**	HO33



Figure 1: *Street frontage of the Residence, 30 Darling Street, South Yarra* (GJM Heritage, April 2024).

What is significant?

The residence at 30 Darling Street, South Yarra, constructed 1857.

Elements that contribute to the significance of the place include:

- Two-storey brick house, with render finish and quoining to front corners, typical of Italianate houses of the mid-Victorian period
- Slate-clad hipped roofs with four rendered brick capped chimneys placed at the sides (two each side)
- Symmetrical principal elevation
- Two-storey convex hipped front verandah with cast iron columns and brackets, frieze at the ground floor verandah and balustrading at the first-floor balcony
- Central front entrance with sidelights and highlight, and flanking full-height openings containing pairs of French doors with glazed upper panes
- Central French doors in a full height opening on the first floor flanked by six-over-six timber sash windows with moulded frames symmetrically arranged above the lower openings.

Later alterations and additions to the rear of the building do not contribute to the significance of the place. The front timber fence does not contribute to the significance of the place.

How is it significant?

The residence at 30 Darling Street, South Yarra is of local historical and representative (architectural) significance to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

The residence at 30 Darling Street, South Yarra has strong associations with the early European development phase of South Yarra, when land was first subdivided and sold for residential development in the mid-nineteenth century. Constructed for John Thomas Smith, long-term Melbourne Town Councillor, it is one of only a small number of substantially intact houses remaining in the suburb to clearly demonstrate the early phase of development in the City of Stonnington (Criterion A).

The residence at 30 Darling Street, South Yarra is a fine and substantially intact representative example of a mid-Victorian brick house. It displays typical characteristics of the Italianate style of the mid-Victorian period, including hipped slate-clad roof, cement render finish with remnant quoining, symmetrical two-storey principal elevation with four rendered brick capped chimneys placed to the north and south elevations, two-storey verandah with decorative ironwork, central entrance with flanking full-height openings with French door and symmetrically-arranged openings to first floor (Criterion D).

Primary source

South Yarra Heritage Review (GJM Heritage, March 2025).