Editorial

We believe that this issue of Historic Environment is quite special. For perhaps the first time an attempt has been made to come to terms with 'The So-called Melbourne Domestic Queen Anne'. George Tibbits is well known to many readers of this journal and for many years the subject of this article has been one of his abiding interests.

In producing this issue it was decided that the opportunity should be taken to reprint some of the supporting material to George's centrepiece. As a result the T A Sisley paper 'The Australian Home - Facts, Fancies and Fallacies' provides some insight into the thinking which lead to this new domestic architecture.

This paper is typical of the material that filled Australia's building journals during the 1890s. Whilst the prose at times seem cumbersome, a careful reading clearly exposes the thoughts which lead to the domestic Queen Anne.

Australian architecture today is beset by problems of definition of style more than it has been for many years. Perhaps our post-modernists, proto post-modernists and the like could learn a great deal from the careful analysis of what is presented here. The development of architectural style is more than the utilisation of a grab-bag of stylistic elements to create a collage, it certainly involves the analysis of the need for, and use of a building and in that respect this edition of Historic Environment should be seen as more than a recitation of architectural history.