

Domain APARTMENTS KATHERINE TOWNSEND

WORK AND PLAY

Melbourne on your doorstep

\$750,000-plus
MELBOURNE
3/192 Little Collins Street
Auction 2pm, November 12
Agent Dingle Partners,
 1300 787 163
Melway 43 J8

 2  2  0

IN A charming part of Little Collins Street filled with cafes and shops, this delightful two-level apartment is so city-central that it could work as a place to live but also as a base for work. On the first and second levels of 1920s Shocko House, it opens from landings on both levels. Its 125-square-metre floor plan has the luxury of inner-city space, with a large living room, powder room and storage room on the lower level and two bedrooms — each with en suite — and a laundry on the upper level. A secure and elegant foyer is a bonus and outside the front door is everything you need.



APARTMENT OF THE WEEK



The gentle art of restraint

Dark timber, marble and glass bestow Airlie Bank with a refined beauty.

\$3.5 million
SOUTH YARRA
7/20-24 Airlie Bank Lane
Agent Neometro, 9534 7774
Private sale
Melway 2L E2

 3  2  2

MANY developers aiming apartments at the rich go overboard, throwing in every bit of residential bling they can think of.

Neometro goes the other way, selling restrained but beautifully designed apartments whose charms speak to those who appreciate good design more than the latest gizmo.

Their most-recently completed project, Airlie Bank in South Yarra, sits in an area where land costs are high and, with only eight in the building, prices were always going to be steep so it's no surprise to find that the 196-square-metre apartment 7, on level three, carries a \$3.5-million price tag. And while internally the apartment is beautiful, externally the project is still maturing and needs buyers to take a leap of (horticultural) faith.

Built at the juncture of two bluestone lanes tucked away behind Walsh Street, it will eventually have walls of green softening its exterior and screening off surrounding apartment buildings.

Inside, however, Neometro's trademark looks are everywhere — beginning with a beautiful, whitewashed, cedar-panelled front door with a large circular handle.

This refined but subdued apartment has the living room as its showpiece — with Tasmanian oak parquet flooring, a dark-timber-battened sliding wall, mixed-height concrete ceilings, an area of wider white-painted panelled wood and a marble



hearth in front of a gas fire. The sliding battened wall opens to reveal a study nook and a wall of glass opens to a covered balcony with built-in barbecue, yellow awning and well-established gardenias — and city views.

The kitchen sits tucked away slightly, abandoning the usual open-plan look, and has a recycled-timber bench with a large marble insert and dark-timber cabinets that connect it to the rest of the apartment — but for most buyers, the joy will be the tucked-away butler's pantry where mess can be contained. This, in turn, leads to a large and streamlined laundry.

Bedrooms are at one end of the apartment — the main with more of the beautiful parquet floors and dark-timber wardrobes and a large and luxurious en suite. The bedroom has a mini balcony contained by rippled-glass screening. The two smaller bedrooms receive northern light and share a lovely bathroom.