CITY OF GEELONG WEST

URBAN CONSERVATION STUDY, BUILDING IDENTIFICATION FORM

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CITY OF GEELONG WEST

URBAN CONSERVATION STUDY: BUILDING IDENTIFICATION FORM.

BUILDING ADDRESS

90 HOPE STREET

HISTORY

This brick cottage on the north side of Hope Street, two doors from the now demolished Lemonade Factory, appears to have been built by 1854. At that time William Hill was listed as the ratepayer. He is listed as the owner in 1856 and as the ratepayer again in 1864-5. From other entries in the Rate Books it seems that William Hill owned the property from 1854 until at least 1864. He let it more often than he lived in it himself. In fact the house was let to someone different every few years until at least 1900 when John Baxter owned it. Other owners or ratepayers in the nineteenth century were Thomas Clarke, Thomas Miller, Alfred Trevena, Mrs Williams, Dr. Creelman, James Snowden, Charles Martell, Mrs. Getsom, George Gorotz, G.H.Gasson, Mrs. Robert Anderson, George Moreland and John Atkinson.

In 1854 it is described as a three roomed brick building and in 1854-5 it is described as brick, four roomed. By 1857-8 it is described as a four roomed brick building with a shed. A brick house and timber outbuilding appears in this approximate location on Taylor's 1854 map. From 1867-8 it is described as having either five rooms or, four rooms and a kitchen. It was a highly rated property compared to the other dwellings in Hope Street and a substantial dwelling for the surrounding area and so it appears to be one of Geelong West's quality buildings of the mid to late nineteenth century. It can be said that it was a substantial and high quality home when it was built in 1854.

DESCRIPTION

It is a single storey brick building with a hipped and slate covered roof. It is sited close to the street boundary on a narrow block. The front elevation has two windows either side of the central front door which has a fixed light above. A most notable feature of this house are the hollow pilaster strips represented by brickwork, which are clearly visible on the front facade and the east wall. This form of decorative work is known to be characteristic of the work of the early feelong architect John Young. In the Golden Age Hotel (built about the same time and exhibiting similar pilaster strips) Young simplified, stylized and pronounced classical elements in brick, to achieve a unique effect. The Argyle Hotel in form of decoration. It may have been designed by John Young or merely influenced by him.

Other buildings in Seelong West with interesting brickwork detailing include 72 Britannia Street and 59 Weller Street. Alterations to the building include the addition of the verandah and painting of the brickwork.

SIGNIFICANCE

90 Hope Street is a rare example of the use of brick to stylize and pronounce classical decorative elements, on the facade of a residence. It appears to have a connection with the work of the important and innovative gioneer Geelong architect, John Young. It is one of the few remaining substantial, high quality brick houses from Geelong West's 1850's era. It is of state significance.

POLICY/RECOMMENDATIONS

H. 8. R., N. E. R., G. R. P. S.

Removal of the paint from the brickwork by an approved method, and removal of the verandah would greatly enhance the character of this building.

REFERENCES

Taylor's 1854 map of Little Scotland, Ashby and portion of Kildare.
Villamanta Ward Rate and Valuation Books 1853 to 1859, Thompson Ward Rate Books 1861 to1875,
Borough of Beelong West Rate Books, 1875 to 1901.