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

5 ST. JAMES STREET.

HISTORY

James Street was formerly part of Addis Street. The first known reference to a building on this site is in 1859-60 when John Butt is listed as the rate payer of a two room weatherboard and brick, plastered building. It is not known if this building is demolished or if it forms part of the extant building. In 1863-4 John Butt is the rate payer of a four room stone building with a garden. John Butt possibly died in the 1860's as Mrs. Honor Butt was listed as the rate payer in 1870-1 and in 1875-6 she was listed as a widow and as the owner. The house was described at that time as a five room stone and brick building with a garden. By 1889-90 Honor Butt had added a weatherboard shop. George Wallace (carpenter) was the occupier and H.W.Butt was the owner in 1900-1 of a seven room stone building.

DESCRIPTION

This single storey building appears to have been built in stages. The form of the stone section is typical for the period, however the use of superior materials such as stone and slate was not. The hipped roof is clad in slate and the central door has double-hung windows on either side. The stone walls are coursed quarry-faced and the quoins at the wall angles are dressed-faced for contrast. The door frame is particularly interesting. Attached to the north end of the stone building is a weatherboard building with a gable roof clad in corrugated iron. The gable end faces the street and has decorative barge boards and the remnants of a wooden finial. A return bull-nosed verandah continues across the east facade of both buildings and returns along the north side of the timber building. The verandah may have been added early in the twentieth century as the brackets are typical for that period.

SIGNIFICANCE

5 St. James Street appears to have been built circa 1860 for the Butt family and remained in their family until at least the twentieth century. The details on the stone building are particularly interesting. It is of regional significance.

POLICY/RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Removal of the paint from the stonework, by an approved method, would greatly enhance this building as would a more appropriate front door, window joinery, verandah, fence and paint colours.

REFERENCES

Kardinia Ward Rate Book, 1857-8. Thomson Ward Rate Books, 1859-60, 1863-4, 1870-1, 1874-5.

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