

BACCHUS MARSH HERITAGE STUDY.

Ref: 139

Richard Peterson Architect & Conservation Consultant. Daniel Catrice Historian 1994.

NAME: Ashley.**ADDRESS:** 18 Grant Street.**TITLE DETAILS:****USE:** House.**PREVIOUS USE:** Residence & Surgery. Private hospital.**SIGNIFICANT DATE:** 1916 **CONSTRUCTION DATE:** 1906 **SOURCE:** 1**ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS:** **DATE:** 1913 **SOURCE:** 2**DESIGNER:** J.F. Taylor **BUILDER:** J.F. Taylor **SOURCE:** 2**CRITERIA:** H1,3; Ar 1 **HISTORIC THEME:** Townships.**DESCRIPTION:** **STYLE:** Edwardian **STORIES:** 2 **DETACHED.****MATERIALS:** **WALLS** Brick **ROOF** Terracotta tiles. **STRUCTURE** Lb**CONDITION:** Good **INTACTNESS:** Reasonable **THREATS:** -**SIGNIFICANT INTACT ELEMENTS:**

FORM. FACADE. VERANDAH. ROOF FORM.

ROOF DECORATION. VERANDAH DECORATION.

CHIMNEYS. DOORS. WINDOWS.

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SIGNIFICANCE:**TYPE:** HISTORICAL. ARCHITECTURAL.**LEVEL:** LOCAL.**DESIGNATION EXISTING:** PLANNING SCHEME. NT.**RECOMMENDED CONTROL:** PLANNING SCHEME. AREA 1.**MAP NO:** U4.07 **SURVEY:** RP & DC **DATE:** 15.1.94 **NEGS:** 11.19

HISTORY: Ashley was erected in 1906 for Dr Noel Vance.¹ The eight-room residence was designed by a local builder, J.F. Taylor, and constructed with bricks obtained from Wittick's brickworks (ref: 299). The attic rooms were completed in 1913 for the then owner, J.B. Ryan.² In July 1916, Ashley was purchased by Dr E.J. McDonald for use as a residence and surgery. The attic rooms were used as a private hospital. Dr Eddie McDonald, who succeeded to the practice after the death of his father recalled: "Peg (Sr. Peg Porter) did the nursing, dad did the doctoring and mum did the cooking".³ Later, Dr McDonald purchased a house in Standfield Street, and in association with Sr. Porter, established Quamby Private Hospital.⁴ In 1937, a new residence and surgery was erected for Dr McDonald at no.18 Grant Street.

VISUAL DESCRIPTION: An asymmetrically double-fronted Edwardian house with a hip roof. The right-hand bay is set forward as a gable, whose upper section is timbered and roughcast and bellies out over a rectangular bay window with four casements. Set into the roof is a gable-roofed attic window with a balcony. Brickwork is tuckpointed, there are chimney-pots, cresting and a terra-cotta finials. The timber verandah has turned posts, a valance with a wavy rail and decorative brackets. Rafters are exposed.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS: Comparable to No. 16 Grant Street. There have been three buildings identified in the Shire used as private hospitals. Two others have been demolished. The best known is "Kelvin Grove" (ref: 116), also "Inglewood" (ref: 203) and "Quamby", Standfield Street. The last two buildings have been demolished.

SIGNIFICANCE: An Edwardian brick house built in 1906, designed by prolific local builder J.F. Taylor, and used from 1916-37 as a surgery and private hospital, by the father and son Drs McDonald.

It has local historical significance as representing the Edwardian period and for its association with the well known McDonald family of doctors and nurses.

It has local architectural significance as a representative example of the Edwardian domestic style.

INTACTNESS: Reasonable.

Brickwork is all painted, but the colours are inappropriate. The high bluestone fence is particularly inappropriate.

CONDITIONS & THREATS: Good. May be threatened by proposed widening of Grant Street.

¹ *Bacchus Marsh Express*, 5 January 1907.

² *Ibid*, 29 November 1913.

³ Camm, *Bacchus Marsh by Bacchus Marsh*, p.294.

⁴ Moore and Oomes, *Bacchus Marsh: A Pictorial Chronicle*, p.87.