

# CITY OF GEELONG WEST

URBAN CONSERVATION STUDY: BUILDING IDENTIFICATION FORM.

BUILDING ADDRESS *39 The Esplanade*

Type  
*residence*

Original Use  
*residence*

PRESENT BUILDING TITLE  
-

EXISTING DESIGNATION

HBR

GBR

NER

GRPS

NATIONAL TRUST

Classified

Recorded

Reg.No.

*674*

CONSERVATION AREA

Name

*The Esplanade*

Survey Date

*15.4.86*

Neg. File

*024.037*

PERIOD

pre 1860

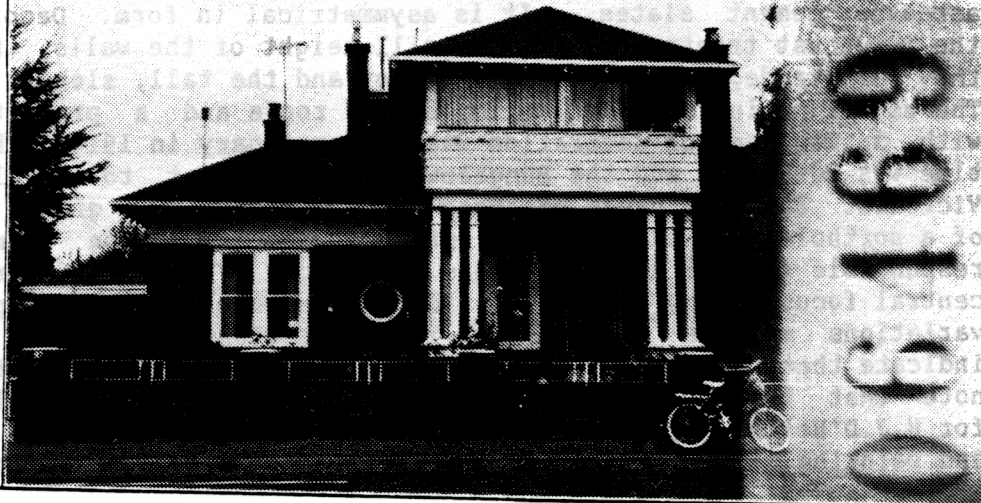
1860 - 1879

1880 - 1899

1900 - 1919

1920 - 1939

post 1940



69169

MATERIALS

walls *brick, shingle, roughcast*

roof *a.c. slates*

CONSTRUCTION DATE

*1914-15*

source

*BLB Drawings.*

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

original materials

early paint colour scheme or original unpainted finish

ornamental wall detailing

original doors, windows, hoods

intact verandah / porch structure

original parapet

original roof form and finish

original chimneys

eaves, roof or gable decoration

intact verandah decoration

early fence

early garden

other prominent contributing elevations




INTEGRITY RATING

excellent

good

fair

poor

LORRAINE HUDDLE

LOUISE HONMAN

RICHARD AITKEN

Architectural & Conservation Consultants

1986

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# CITY OF GEELONG WEST

URBAN CONSERVATION STUDY: BUILDING IDENTIFICATION FORM.

BUILDING ADDRESS

39 THE ESPLANADE

## HISTORY

The residence was built in 1914-15 for J.P.H.Baxter. Well known architects and builders were responsible for its design and construction. It was designed by architects Buchan Laird and Buchan and built by J.C.Taylor and Sons. This house was built just two years after Baxter's residence at 5 Glenleith Avenue. It is not known why Baxter moved so soon but it is known that he remained at 39 The Esplanade until at least 1941. J.P.H.Baxter was one of Geelong's most generous benefactors. More details about his life may be found on the data sheet for 5 Glenleith Avenue.

## DESCRIPTION

The two storey residence is built in red brick and the hipped roof is clad in asbestos cement slates. It is asymmetrical in form. Decorative elements include the roughcast treatment above the sill height of the walls, the timber shingles of the balustrade, the port hole window and the tall, slender columns of the piazza. The use of plain red brick walls, hipped roofs and a projecting piazza, together with a minimum of decoration was extraordinary in 1914. The popular style at the time was Edwardian and the Bungalow style was yet to develop in popularity in Victoria. Baxter's house belonged to neither of these groups of buildings. The use of a porthole to accent the entrance was a common theme of the architects responsible for the design of this building. The use of a projected portico as the central focus of the front elevation became popular on the Esplanade and many later variations may be seen today. The alterations on the plan and elevation attached indicate that they are early versions of the final design. It is interesting to note that the title of the plan formerly read 'Proposed villa Drumcondra, Geelong for H.J.D'Helin, Esq. Alterations to the lounge were made in 1930 and sundry works and painting was undertaken in 1935 by Buchan Laird and Buchan.

## SIGNIFICANCE

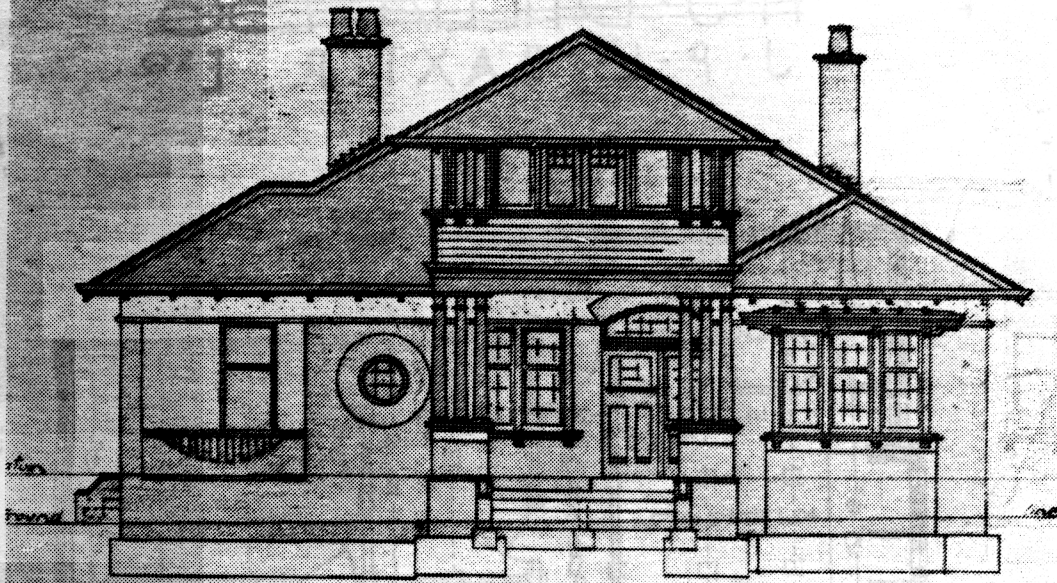
39 The Esplanade was built in 1914-15 for J.P.H.Baxter, one of Geelong's most generous benefactors. The noted Geelong architects, Buchan Laird and Buchan were responsible for the innovative design which included the plain red brick walls, hipped roofs, restrained decoration and the prominent portico. It is of local significance.

## POLICY/RECOMMENDATIONS

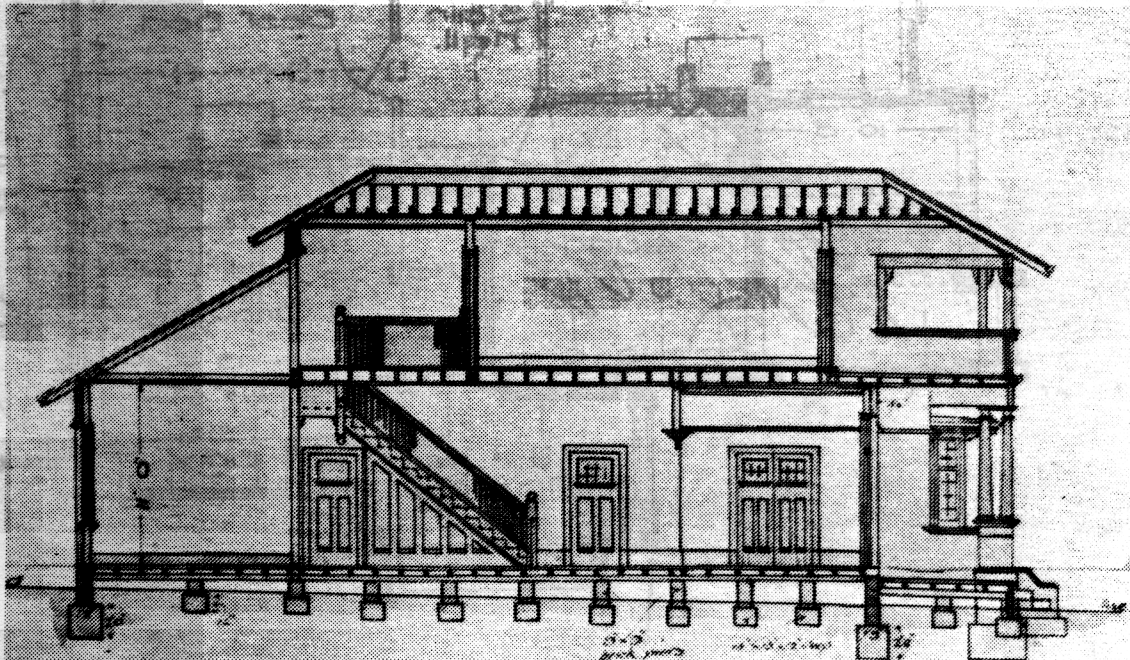
G.R.P.S.

## REFERENCES

Geelong West Building Permit Register.  
Buchan Laird and Buchan, architects; Drawings and Specifications. B13.  
Residence for J.F.Baxter, (name on drawings J.P.H.Baxter). Drawing dated 16.9.1914.



FRONT ELEVATION.

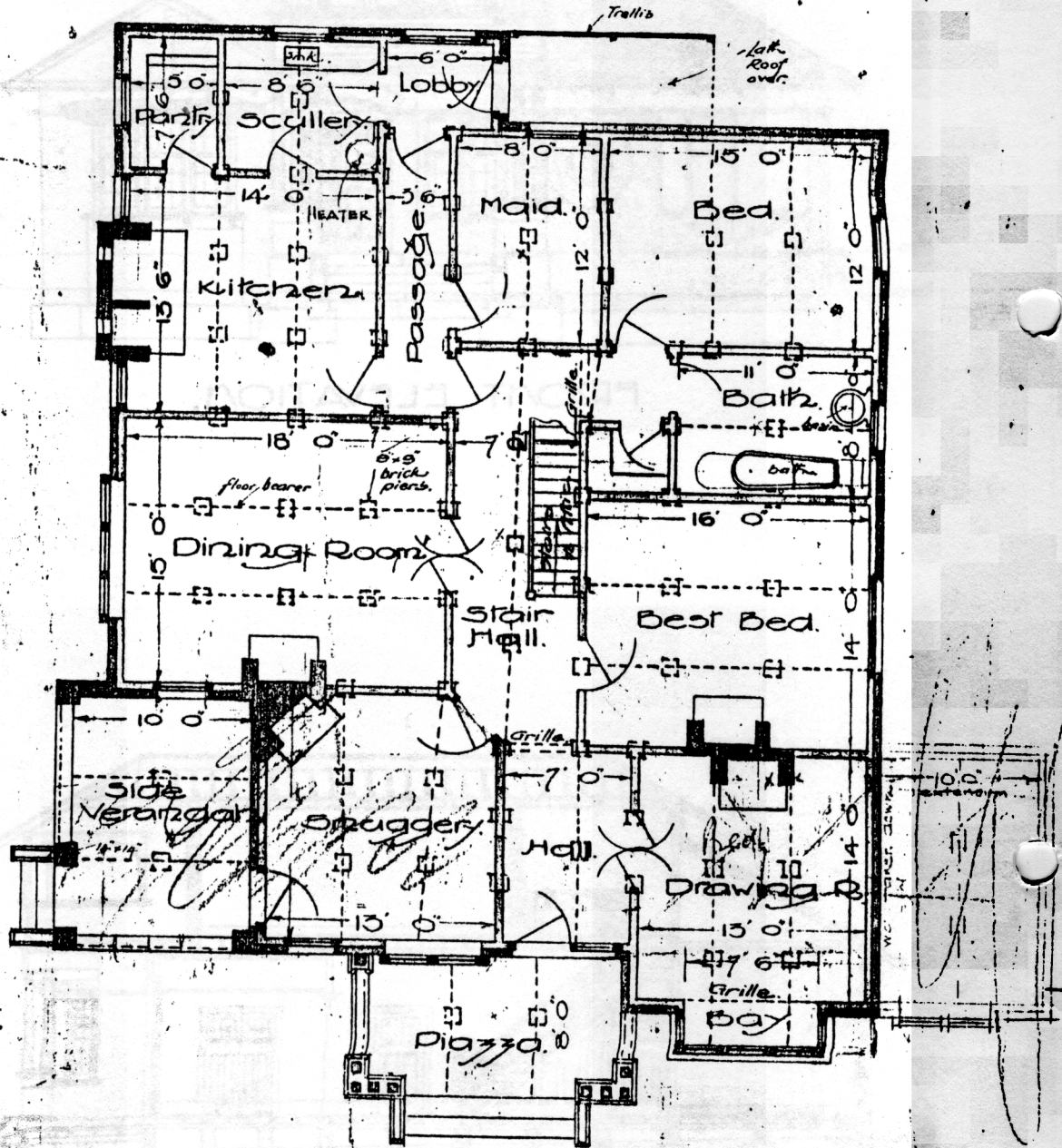


SECTION B. B.

39 THE ESPLANADE

# PROPOSED VILLA DRUMCONDRA, GEELENG,

FOR  
~~J. D'HELIA, ESQ.~~  
J. P. H. BAXTER, ESQ.



GROUND PLAN.

SCALE - 8' TO 1".