

# CITY OF GEELONG WEST

URBAN CONSERVATION STUDY: BUILDING IDENTIFICATION FORM.

BUILDING ADDRESS *53 The Esplanade* Type *residence* Original Use *residence*

PRESENT BUILDING TITLE *Montana*

EXISTING DESIGNATION	HBR	GBR	NER	GRPS	NATIONAL TRUST	
					Classified	Recorded
Reg.No.	-	-	-	677	-	-

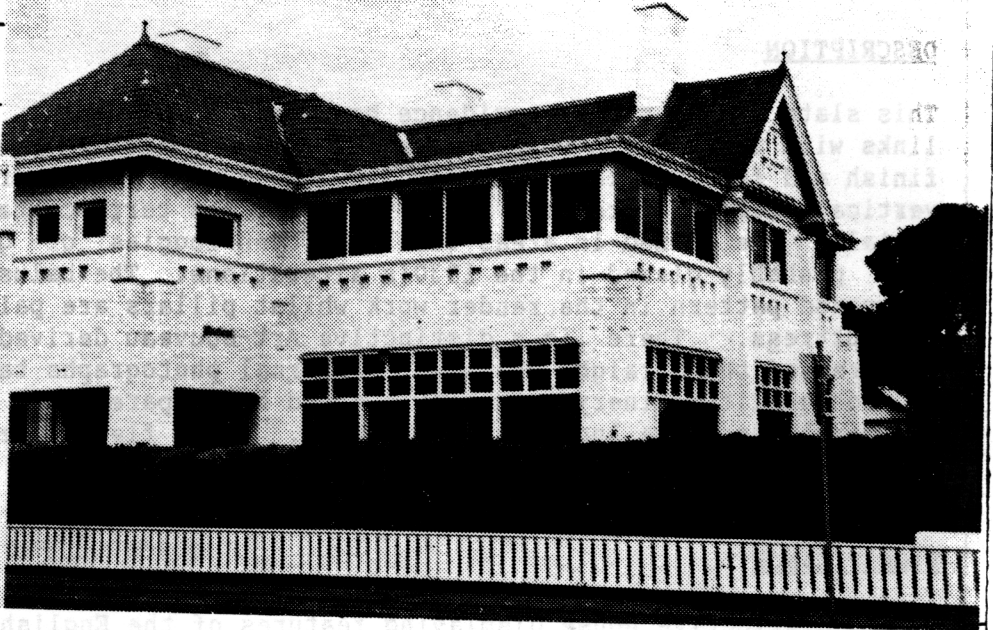
CONSERVATION AREA No. Name *The Esplanade*

Survey Date *15.4.86*

Neg. File *025-007*

PERIOD

pre 1860	<input type="checkbox"/>
1860 - 1879	<input type="checkbox"/>
1880 - 1899	<input type="checkbox"/>
1900 - 1919	<input type="checkbox"/>
1920 - 1939	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
post 1940	<input type="checkbox"/>



MATERIALS walls *stucco* roof *slate*

CONSTRUCTION DATE *c.1920* source *BUILDING PERMITS REGISTER*

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

original materials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	early paint colour scheme or original unpainted finish	<input type="checkbox"/>	ornamental wall detailing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
original doors, windows, hoods	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	intact verandah / porch structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	original parapet	<input type="checkbox"/>
original roof form and finish	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	original chimneys	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	eaves, roof or gable decoration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
intact verandah decoration	<input type="checkbox"/>	early fence	<input type="checkbox"/>	early garden ( <i>hedge</i> )	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
other prominent contributing elevations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

INTEGRITY RATING      excellent       good       fair       poor

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# CITY OF GEELONG WEST

URBAN CONSERVATION STUDY: BUILDING IDENTIFICATION FORM.

BUILDING ADDRESS

53 THE ESPLANADE

## HISTORY

The house at 53 The Esplanade was built c.1920 for Mr Oswald C. Hearne after purchasing the land from William Reid. O. C. Hearne studied medicine at Edinburgh University, was a City Councillor and Mayor of Geelong and organist of Yarra Street Methodist Church. Inspection of the building permit register has not revealed an exact date for construction but it is clear that the house was built before 1922 as it is noted that a summer house was added at this time. In 1928 an organ chamber was added and further alterations and additions occurred in 1934 and 1937. It must have been one of the most impressive new houses in Geelong at the time as the Australian Home Builder chose to devote an article to its features in 1923.

## DESCRIPTION

This slate roofed stucco residence has unusual stylistic derivation, having some links with the English Domestic Arts and Crafts revival movement (roof forms, stucco finish and fenestration pattern). The gable end has more conventionally styled vertical timber strapping and the roof has terra-cotta ridging tiles with small finials. The glazed-in areas were once open loggias of generous proportions but were probably glazed in the 1930's alterations. The balustrade and some walls have a squared pattern in the render work whilst pillars are paired at corners as a type of buttress. There is a distinctive Art-Nouveau derived render decoration on the pillars and the straight chimneys. Internal photographs taken in 1923 show a wealth of high-quality joinery. The style could be compared with the work of Walter Butler and Harold Desbrowe Annear's later work. The flat-roofed loggias upstairs are almost modern in appearance.

## SIGNIFICANCE

A most distinctive house displaying features of the English Domestic Arts and Crafts revival style as practised by some architects. A substantial contribution to the high status residential area of the Esplanade. It is of regional significance.

## POLICY/RECOMMENDATIONS

National Estate Register, *GRPS.*

## REFERENCES

Sands and McDougall Directories, 1920, 1928, 1934, 1941.

Australian Home Builder, Feb. 1923, pp. 37,64.

Geelong West Building Permit Register, 1926-40.

The Morrow Pioneers Index, GHRC., O. C. Hearne.