BACCHUS MARSH HERITAGE STUDY.

Ref: 194

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

NAME: ---

ADDRESS: 10 Gisborne Road.

TITLE DETAILS:

USE: House

SIGNIFICANT DATE: 1881-1915 (-1977) CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1868

SOURCE: 1,2.

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS:

DATE: 1890

SOURCE: 3

CRITERIA: H1,3/ Ar 1 HISTORIC THEME: Townships.

STYLE: Early

STORIES: 1

DETACHED.

DESCRIPTION: **MATERIALS:**

WALLS Brick

ROOF Slate

STRUCTURE Lb

CONDITION: Good

INTACTNESS: Good

THREATS: -

SIGNIFICANT INTACT ELEMENTS:

MATERIALS, slate FORM, FACADE, VERANDAH.

EAVES DECORATION. VERANDAH DECORATION.

CHIMNEYS. WALL DECORATION. DOORS. WINDOWS. PAINTWORK SCHEME.

UNPAINTED FINISH, brick

CONTEXT. 6 & 8

SIGNIFICANCE:

TYPE: HISTORICAL. ARCHITECTURAL.

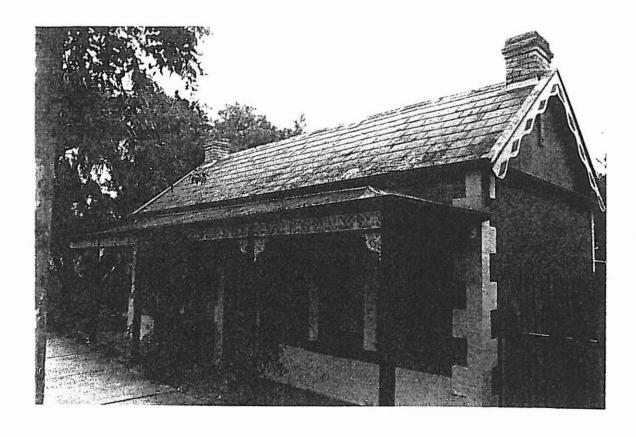
LEVEL: STATE.

DESIGNATION EXISTING: HBCR. PLANNING SCHEME. NTC.

RECOMMENDED CONTROL/NOMINATION: HBR. RNE. PLANNING SCHEME.

AREA 1.

SURVEY: RP **DATE: 29.1.94** MAP NO: U4.07 **NEGS:** 15.18 & 19, 17.2



HISTORY: This house, part of a group of three buildings associated with the *Bacchus Marsh Express*, was built by William Watson in 1868. Watson lived here for several years, then sold the house in 1876, to James Bamford. In 1881 Christopher Crisp, editor and proprietor of the *Bacchus Marsh Express*, purchased it for his growing family. He had married Grace Lane in 1873, and together they raised two daughters and three sons. The house was extended after 1890, when Crisp acquired additional land on the north side of his property.

Christopher Crisp died at Bacchus Marsh on December 25, 1915. A widowed daughter lived in the house from 1920. The property was sold by the Crisp family in April 1977.⁴

VISUAL DESCRIPTION: A double-fronted symmetrical tuckpointed red brick Victorian cottage, with extensive outbuildings. It has a slate gabled roof across the site, with symmetrical chimneys. There are decorative bargeboards of serpentine profile with applied lozenges. Gable-ends are rendered, this is ruled ashlar and quoins at corners. The front verandah has a concave hip roof, with cast-iron lace valance, over a rail and brackets. These are in the from of half-figure caryatid putti, with vine foliage decoration. There is a T-shaped gable-roofed outbuilding (or extension?) at left, rear.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS: There are sixteen early houses in Bacchus Marsh. This one is particularly extensive, with its rambling outbuildings. Part of a group of 6 - 10 Gisborne Road, associated with the *Express*. (refer also: 192 and 193).

SIGNIFICANCE: An early large brick house built in 1868. From 1881, Christopher Crisp, editor and part proprietor of the *Bacchus Marsh Express* lived here with his large family until his death in 1915. It remained in the Crisp family until 1977. It is part of a group of three buildings (also refs: 192 & 193) associated with the newspaper.

Forceful, and intelligent Christopher Crisp was influential on Alfred Deakin and the Australian Federation movement at the end of the nineteenth century.

This house is of state historical significance for its association with the then important and influential *Express* and Christopher Crisp. It is a representative embodiment of a way of life in the period from 1868. Finally it is local architectural significance as an early house, surviving in the centre of the town.

INTACTNESS: Very good. The valance and rail are lacking, at left.

¹ Moore and Oomes, Bacchus Marsh: A Pictorial Chronicle, p.25.

² Rundle, J.H. "Christopher Crisp" in Australian Dictionary of Biography, vol.3, p.495.

³ Moore, "House at 10 Gisborne Road, Bacchus Marsh", typescript, BMDHS.

⁴ Ibid.

CONDITIONS & THREATS: Good. Ground level has risen up above floor level allowing penetration of damp. There is cracking below the front and rear verandahs. There is rising damp in the centre north elevation of the outbuilding.

