

**BACCHUS MARSH HERITAGE STUDY.**

Ref: 305

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

<b>NAME:</b> --- <b>ADDRESS:</b> 2 Cain Street (NW cnr Wellington Street) Darley. <b>TITLE DETAILS:</b>
<b>USE:</b> House <b>PREVIOUS USE:</b> Presbytery. <b>SIGNIFICANT DATE:</b> 1857-71 <b>CONSTRUCTION DATE:</b> 1857 <b>SOURCE:</b> 1 <b>CRITERIA:</b> H2/ H1,2,3,6; Ar3. <b>HISTORIC THEME:</b> Community life/ Townships
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b> <b>STYLE:</b> Early <b>STORIES:</b> 1 <b>DETACHED.</b> <b>MATERIALS:</b> <b>WALLS</b> Render <b>ROOF</b> Iron <b>STRUCTURE</b> Lb <b>CONDITION:</b> Reasonable <b>INTACTNESS:</b> Reasonable <b>THREATS:</b> -
<b>SIGNIFICANT INTACT ELEMENTS:</b> FACADE. VERANDAH. WALL DECORATION. WINDOWS. FENCE.
<b>SIGNIFICANCE:</b> <b>TYPE:</b> HISTORICAL. ARCHITECTURAL. <b>LEVEL:</b> LOCAL.
<b>DESIGNATION EXISTING:</b> Nil <b>RECOMMENDED CONTROL:</b> PLANNING SCHEME.
<b>MAP NO:</b> U5.04 <b>SURVEY:</b> RP <b>DATE:</b> 6.3.94 <b>NEGS:</b> 24.30 & 31, 29.35, 30. 0,1 & 36



**HISTORY:** In 1856, Fr Shinnock, the first Catholic priest-in-charge at Bacchus Marsh, was granted two acres (.8 ha) of land at Darley. In the following year, Fr Shinnick was succeeded by Fr Eugene O'Connell. A presbytery was then erected on an allotment at Darley. Fr O'Connell's mission included the Jim Crow Diggings, Mt Blackwood, Ballan, Gordon, Melton, Riddell's Creek, Kororoit Creek and Gisborne. From 1868 Fr O'Connell, now in poor health, was assisted by Fr Patrick Dunne, and later, by Fr Timothy O'Connell. Fr O'Connell died in 1871. He was succeeded by Fr O'Callaghan, who chose to live in Gisborne. From 1888, Catholic priests lived at the presbytery in Lerderberg Street (ref: 245).<sup>1</sup>

**VISUAL DESCRIPTION:** A hip-roofed four-bay early house, with rendered walls and quoins at corners. There are rendered architrave moulds and cills on brackets. Flanking the entrance, which is off-centre, are banded rusticated strips. Windows are casement pairs, with the upper section as four panes. There is a bull-nosed verandah on three sides and a rear skillion addition.

**COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS:** There are seventeen early houses in Bacchus Marsh identified in the Study. One four houses have been identified on the Maddingley and Darley government town reserves (also: refs: 69, 300 & 301).

**SIGNIFICANCE:** An early rendered masonry former Catholic presbytery, the first in Bacchus Marsh, built in 1856 and the only surviving substantial building on the Darley government-township area, surveyed in 1839.

It is of historical significance locally for its association with the religious development of community life in Bacchus Marsh.

The house is also historically significant as a representative embodiment of a way of life and its social values in the early settlement of the town, 140 years ago. It demonstrates an association with Fr Shinnick the first Catholic priest-in-charge at Bacchus Marsh. It is a pioneering building in the municipality, and the earliest identified in Darley and the only substantial and intact building surviving from the government surveyed town.

Finally, it is of local architectural significance as a rare relatively intact early house.

**INTACTNESS:** Reasonable. A chimney and both fireplaces have been removed. The two left-hand windows have been combined.

**CONDITIONS & THREATS:** Reasonable.

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<sup>1</sup>Love, *St Bernard's Church, Bacchus Marsh*, pp.2&3. Personal conversation by the present owner Ms Robyn Jooré, with RP, 6 March 1994.

