

HISTORY : Builder Henry N. Rose built this house for his family home. He completed it in 1908 or 1909.¹ (Other buildings associated with Rose include the Geelong Waterworks, the Gabo Island Lighthouse and the Church Theatre in Burwood Road, Hawthorn).² Being the house of a builder of interesting buildings, may account for its idiosyncrasies.

VISUAL DESCRIPTION : A triple-fronted, timber, early Edwardian corner house with a high hip-roof. Gables are set forward facing each street, with a shallow bullnosed verandah around the angle, with a minor gable on the splay, over a rectangular bay of triple segmental head casements. The verandah valence has a Gothic fretwork arcade on spindles over a rail, with scroll brackets and turned posts. Weatherboards are notched over the dado mould, with ashlar boards below. All upper gables are roughcast, with scroll decoration and pendant barges. There is a timber skillion windowhood on radiating brackets over a triple casement. Eaves have spindle bracket pairs, with diamond lozenges between. There are two entrances, with side and fanlights. The three chimneys are red brick with roughcast and mould tops, with terra-cotta pots. The side hedge has a picket fence.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS : 39-45 Chestnut Street also has Gothic elements. Comparable diagonal-axis plans occur at : 3 Leslie Street (ref : 126); 36 Bennett Street (ref : 125); 93 Elizabeth Street (ref : 105); 6 Park Grove (ref : 42); 22 Newry Street (ref : 56); 2 Brougham Street and 2 Malleson Street.

SIGNIFICANCE : A triple-fronted, timber, early Edwardian house of about 1905, with unusual decoration and Gothic influences. Of local architectural significance.

INTACTNESS : Part of the fence has been replaced with a sympathetic similar fence. The verandah floor is concrete paved.

CONDITION & THREATS : Good. Verandah flashing needs repair.

REFERENCES : 1. Shown as a vacant site on the 1898 MMBW plan 1051.
Age, 7 November 1990, p.40.
City of Richmond Rate Books, North Ward.
2. Age, 7 November 1990, p.40.