

GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

Site Name: Residence

Project File No: 0863

Address: 5 Bean Street Geelong 3220

Approx. Date: 1877-78

Integrity: Moderate

Significance Level: C (Local)

Photograph No: 07.08

Survey Date: March 2002



History

This site at 5 Bean Street, Geelong, is located on Lot 1 of subdivision plan TP0859, which is part of Crown Allotment no. 16, Section 15A, of the Town Plan of Geelong of 1881. The original owner of the land was Douglas Burrows.

A 4 room weatherboard house with shed was built at this site in 1877-78, apparently for Samuel Bleazby, who lived there from 1878 to 1881. The first name entered in the Geelong Rate Books (Barwon Ward) as owner of the property was Andrew McWilliams of Drysdale, from 1896 to 1900. A bathroom was added to the house some time just before or after the dwelling was inherited by Sarah Jane McWilliams, householder of Bairnsdale, in February 1900. After her death in 1909, the property was administered by the trustees of McWilliams Estate until the early 1920s, when it passed to Melbourne householder, Ethel Maud McWilliams, who retained ownership until the 1940s. Throughout this time the house was leased to numerous tenants, including labourer, Alexander, and Emily Maud Winter, who lived there from c. 1900 to the 1930s.

In c.1950 the house was enlarged to 7 rooms, the owner in that year being Ellen, or Elsie, Maud McWilliams, of Malvern Road, Melbourne, who inherited the property in April, 1949. The occupier of the house in 1950, Leonard Beardsell, later purchased the property, and

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appears to have resided there until c. 1970.

Description

The house at 5 Bean Street, Geelong, is set on a small allotment for the area. The house has a front setback of approximately 3-4 metres, is situated near one side boundary and has another wide side setback. The front garden consists of perimeter flower beds. The front is bound by a timber picket fence and gate with elaborate panelled timber gate piers and is approximately 1200 mm high. One end of the front is also bound by a timber paling fence surmounted by timber lattice, and is approximately 2 m high.

The single storey, horizontal weatherboard, Victorian styled house is characterised by a hipped roof form, together with a concave verandah that projects towards the street frontage. There is also an introduced rear hipped roof form that projects at the side which also has a concave verandah at the front. These roof forms are clad in corrugated dark red colorbond. An early unpainted brick chimney with a multi-corbelled top adorns the roofline, with a very similar introduced chimney situated at the rear. Narrow overhangs are features of the eaves.

The symmetrical composition of the original part of the house is accentuated by the early timber framed doorway and transom, which are flanked by early timber framed double hung windows.

The front and rear verandahs are supported by introduced timber columns with introduced timber framed valances have decorative detailing simulating cast iron work.

Statement of Cultural Significance

The house at 5 Bean Street, Geelong, has significance as a partially intact example of the Victorian style. Although the house has experienced a number of alterations, it is in good condition and continues to reflect its Victorian design, having been built in 1877-78 for Samuel Bleazby.

The house at 5 Bean Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. Although altered, it still demonstrates original design qualities of a Victorian style. These qualities include the hipped roof form, together with the concave verandah that projects towards the street frontage. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the horizontal weatherboard wall cladding, unpainted brick chimney with a multi-corbelled top in the front portion of the house, narrow eaves, timber framed doorway and transom, timber framed double hung windows. The front timber picket fence and gate also contribute to the significance of the place.

The house at 5 Bean Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with residential developments in Geelong in the 1870s. In particular, this house has associations with Samuel Bleazby, original owner from 1877-78 until 1881.

Overall, the house at 5 Bean Street is of LOCAL significance.

References

Drainage plans and Reports, Barwon Water profits system, 1921, 1949, 1988, 1990.
Voters' Roll, Barwon Ward 1992, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
Sands & McDougall Directory of Geelong 1972, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
Sands & McDougall "Invicta" Geelong Directory, 1968, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
Geelong City Council Rate Books (Barwon Ward), 1877-1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
Geelong Town Plan 1881, Geelong Historical Records Centre.