

## GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

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**Site Name:** Residence

**Project File No:** 0890

**Address:** 21 Brownbill Street Geelong 3220

**Approx. Date:** 1919

**Integrity:** Moderate-High

**Significance Level:** C (Local)

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**Photograph No:** 05.11

**Survey Date:** March 2002

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### History

This site at 21 Brownbill Street (formerly James St.), Geelong, is located on part of Allotment no. 17, Section 75, of the 1881 Geelong Town Plan, on land originally owned by James Noble.

This weatherboard house (including bathroom and washhouse), was built in 1918-1919 for the bricklayer, William C. Harrison, of Fitzroy Street. Harrison sold the house, unfinished, to a Mr. Atkins of Maud Street in 1919. This change of ownership set the scene for a speculative history for the next 40 years. During this time the property had at least 6 owners, only 3 of whom occupied the residence - Ernest John Camp, fruiterer, in the early 1920s, Aldo and Norma Panazzo in 1950 and Robert Flanagan, a waterside worker, in 1960. Apart from drainage work carried out in 1923-1924 by Ernest Camp, there is no evidence of alterations to the building throughout this period. By 1968 the property was occupied by Miss Mary Martin Kemlo.

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## Description

The house at 21 Brownbill Street, Geelong, is set on a typically narrow allotment and has a sizeable front setback. The house is situated on one side boundary with the other side having a narrow setback. The front consists of a perimeter garden and grassed area, and an introduced skillion carport at one side. The front is bound by a timber picket fence, approximately 1600 mm high.

The asymmetrical, single storey, horizontal weatherboard, early interwar Bungalow styled house is characterised by a simple gable roof form, together with a minor porch gable at one side that projects towards the street frontage. These roof forms are clad in galvanised corrugated steel. Wide overhangs with exposed timber rafters are features of the eaves.

The timber framed double hung windows are early, with the front tripartite windows have decorative leadlighting. There is also an early timber framed doorway under the porch gable.

Early or appropriate decorative features of the design include the timber porch columns and arch with timber fretwork above, and the gable infill (stuccoed panelling and battening).

## Statement of Cultural Significance

The house at 21 Brownbill Street, Geelong, has significance as a reasonably externally intact example of an early interwar Bungalow style. Built in 1918-19 for the bricklayer, William Harrison, the house appears to be in good condition when viewed from the street.

The house at 21 Brownbill Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. It demonstrates original design qualities of an early interwar Bungalow style. These qualities include the simple gable roof form, together with the minor porch gable at one side that projects towards the street frontage. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the asymmetrical composition, single storey height, galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding, horizontal weatherboard wall cladding, wide eaves with exposed timber rafters, timber framed double hung windows (including the front tripartite windows that have decorative leadlighting), timber framed doorway under the porch gable, timber porch columns and arch with timber fretwork above, and the gable infill (stuccoed panelling and battening).

The house at 21 Brownbill Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with residential developments in Geelong soon after the First World War in 1918-19. In particular, this house has associations with William Harrison, bricklayer and original owner from 1918-19, who sold it in an unfinished stated to a Mr Atkins in 1919.

Overall, the house at 21 Brownbill Street is of LOCAL significance.

## References

- Drainage Plans and Reports, Barwon Water profis system, 1924, 1990.
- Voters' Roll, Barwon Ward, 1992, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
- Electoral Roll, District Corio, Sub-district Geelong, 1984, GHRC.
- Sands & McDougall Geelong Directory, 1972, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
- Sands & McDougall "Invicta" Geelong Directory, 1968. Geelong Historical Records Centre.
- Geelong City Council Rate Books 1918 - 1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
- Geelong Town Plan, 1881, Geelong Historical Records Centre.