

## GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

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**Site Name:** Residence

**Project File No:** 0908

**Address:** 40 Eastern Beach Geelong 3220

**Approx. Date:** 1950

**Integrity:** High

**Significance Level:** C (Local)

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**Photograph No:** 06.26

**Survey Date:** March 2002

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### History

This site at 40 Eastern Beach, Geelong, is situated on Part B of the original Pilots' Quarters allotment, Section 57, on the Town Plan of Geelong, 1858.

The 8 room brick residence, originally addressed as 26 Victoria Parade, was built for Clarence James O'Donnell, caterer, in 1950. He lived there until 1972. Sewerage work was carried out at the property in 1959-60, with new toilet, kitchen and bathroom fixtures installed. In 1972 the house was purchased by, the engineer, Raymond Wallace (Wally) Whiteside and his wife, Beryl.

### Description

The house known as 'Devon' at 40 Eastern Beach, Geelong, is set on an average-sized allotment for the local area. This house has a substantial front setback and narrow side setbacks. The front consists of a side concrete driveway with a stone border, open grassed areas and perimeter flower beds and shrubs. The front is bound by an early low brick fence with a tile capping and is approximately 900 mm high.

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The asymmetrical, two storey, unpainted brick, postwar Modern (Waterfall front) styled house is characterised low pitched, hipped roof forms clad in terra cotta tiles, and the curved flat-roofed bays that project at the front and side. The front bay features streamlined timber framed windows with large expanses of glazing on the first floor. The side bay forms a porch on the first floor, accessed by sweeping concrete stairs that follow the curved form. The other banks of timber framed double hung windows (with fixed glazed lights) which wrap around the building corners are also early.

Other early features of the design include the wide eaves, rectilinear chimney, projecting flat-roofed ground floor porch, and the metal balcony and porch balustrades, window grill, and stair balustrade.

### **Statement of Cultural Significance**

'Devon' at 40 Eastern Beach, Geelong, has significance as an intact example of the postwar Modern (Waterfall Front) style. Built in 1950 for Clarence O'Donnell, caterer, the house appears to be in good condition when viewed from the street.

'Devon' at 40 Eastern Beach is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. It demonstrates original design qualities of a postwar Modern (Waterfall Front) style. These qualities include low pitched, hipped roof forms clad in terra cotta tiles, and the curved flat-roofed bays that project at the front and side. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the asymmetrical composition, two storey height, wide eaves, rectilinear brick chimney, tiled roof cladding, brick wall construction, streamlined timber framed windows with large expanses of glazing on the first floor, first floor curved balcony, sweeping concrete stairs that follow the curved form of the side bay, other banks of timber framed double hung windows which wrap around the building corners, projecting flat-roofed ground floor porch, and the metal balcony and porch balustrades, window grill, and stair balustrade. The front fence and garden also contribute to the significance of the place.

'Devon' at 40 Eastern Beach is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with the development of substantial 'streamlined' houses in Geelong after the Second World War. In particular, this house has associations with Clarence James O'Donnell, caterer and original owner from 1950 until 1972.

Overall, 'Devon' at 40 Eastern Beach is of LOCAL significance.

### **References**

Drainage plans and Reports, Barwon Water profits system, 1950, 1957, 1960, 1961, 1972.  
Electoral Roll, Division Corio, Subdivision Geelong, 1984, 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), 1950-1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.  
Geelong Town Plan 1858, Geelong Historical Records Centre.