

Building: Residence
Address: 27 Clifton Avenue



Allotment Reference: Quarry Allotments
National Estate Register: Registered
Historic Buildings Council Register: Recommended
National Trust Register: Classified
Location within Precinct: Clifton Hill Eastern Residential Precinct
Photo Date: June, 1988
Grantee: -
Original Owner: Samuel Ramsden
Present Owner: R.A. Newton
Original Use: Residence
Present Use: Residence

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Construction Date: pre 1853

Architect: -

Builder: Samuel Ramsden

Description: An early hip roofed coursed bluestone cottage with later bullnosed verandah and two windows to front, west facing elevation. Eaves are bracketted (joist ends) and the stonework consists of sparrow picked quoin and lintels with coursed rubble work fill.

Condition: Good

Integrity: Good

History: James Kearney's map of 1855 and the CPO map of the Electoral District of Collingwood - CEM 241 Jika Jika - of 1853, shows No. 27 Clifton Avenue and nearby Nos. 3 Horne Street and 2 Ford Street along with other scattered buildings in the Quarries Division of the municipality of East Collingwood, gazetted in that year. Samuel Ramsden, a stonemason, quarry owner and building contractor, was later a flour miller, owner of Melbourne's first paper mill (forerunner of APM) and a local councillor (1857-1859). He built this house some time after his purchase of three acres of land in Clifton Hill in the early 1850's. Ramsden retained possession during the 1870's whilst his son, George was in residence. Upon Samuel's death, in 1877, George moved again to his father's house in East Melbourne, no. 27 being tenanted in 1885 by Ernest Petherick, auctioneer. In 1888, Ramsden sold this lot, forming the eastern frontage to Clifton Avenue, to William R. Cooper, a builder, and by 1901 (RB) it was owned by Mrs. E. Cooper. During the 1920's ownership passed to Ernest Brewer, to James Henry and James McCoach.

Significance: No. 27 Clifton Avenue is important as one of three pre 1853 houses in the Quarries Division of the municipality of Collingwood and is therefore expressive both of the earliest development phase of this portion of Clifton Hill as well as of the quarrying industry for which Collingwood was to become noted. Its association with Samuel Ramsden is important in the history of Collingwood and the City of Melbourne. Together with the other properties mentioned, it is the oldest building in the municipality.

Recommendations:

Recommended for inclusion on the Historic Buildings Council Register, and for Planning Scheme protection.

References:

- Rate Books
- National Trust file for
(C. Kellaway, 2.11.1977)
- The Melbourne Times, 20-6-1979

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