GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

Site Name: Residence

Project File No: 0918

Address: 11 Fenwick Street Geelong 3220

Approx. Date: 1905

Integrity: High

Significance Level: C (Local)

Photograph No: 07.25

Survey Date: March 2002



History

This site at 11 Fenwick St., Geelong, is located on Lot 2, Plan TO5905, which is on Allotment 10, Section 45, of the Geelong Town Plan of 1881. It was first owned by J. Jackson.

In 1905, Thomas F. Peters (a timber merchant before his retirement in c.1900) had a 6-roomed weatherboard house (with bathroom and possibly a servant's room) built on this site which he had held since 1897. Peters owned all that part of Section 45 earlier belonging to J. Jackson. After his death between 1905 and 1910, his Estate continued leasing the house, as did his daughter, Elsie Hobbs Peters (later Horwood), who had inherited the residence by 1915. Two years later in 1917, the sewerage was connected to the property. The house was managed on Elsie Horwood's behalf by Ballarat Trustees from c.1950 until her death in 1972.

Longer-term tenants over the years included John Howard, a timber merchant, from 1902 until c.1912, Harry George Hodges, a manager, from c.1912 until c.1922, and from 1940 until at least 1972, George Allen.

Description

The house at 11 Fenwick Street, Geelong, is set on an averaged sized allotment for the local area. It has a modest front setback that is equivalent to the front setbacks of the neighbouring houses at 7 and 9 Fenwick Street. The modest front garden consists of mature shrubbery beds bound by a timber border.

The symmetrical, single storey, horizontal weatherboard, Late Victorian styled house is characterised by a hipped roof form, together with a bullnosed verandah that projects towards the street frontage. These roof forms are clad in galvanised corrugated iron. Narrow overhangs with timber brackets are features of the eaves.

An early feature of the design is the front verandah. It is adorned with a central gable portico, the whole being supported by early turned timber verandah columns. The portico is decorated with ornamental timberwork, while the verandah itself has decorative cast iron valances.

The symmetrical composition of the design is accentuated by the early central timber framed doorway with sidelights and highlights, which are flanked by early projecting timber framed double hung bay windows.

Statement of Cultural Significance

The house at 11 Fenwick Street, Geelong, has significance as an intact example of the Late Victorian style. Built in 1905 for Thomas F. Peters, the house appears to be in good condition when viewed from the street.

The house at 11 Fenwick Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. It demonstrates original design qualities of a Late Victorian style. These qualities include the hipped roof form, together with bullnosed verandah (with gabled portico) that projects towards the street frontage. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the galvanised symmetrical composition, single storey height, corrugated steel roof cladding, horizontal weatherboard wall cladding, narrow eaves with timber brackets, projecting timber framed double hung bay windows, timber framed doorway with sidelights and highlights, turned timber verandah columns, ornamental timberwork under the verandah portico, and the cast iron verandah valances.

The house at 11 Fenwick Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with residential developments in Geelong in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In particular, this house has associations with Thomas F. Peters, retired timber merchant and original owner from 1905. The Peters family were long-time owners of the property, for it remained under their ownership until 1972.

Overall, the house at 11 Fenwick Street is of LOCAL significance.

References

Drainage Plans and Reports, Barwon Water profis system, 1917, 1974. Sands & McDougall Geelong Directory 1972, Geelong Historical Records Centre. Sands & McDougall "Invicta" Geelong Directory 1968, Geelong Historical Records Centre. Geelong City Council Rate Books (Kardinia Ward) 1897-1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.

Geelong Town Plan 1881, Geelong Historical Records Centre.