

GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

Site Name: Residence

Project File No: 0928

Address: 37 Fitzroy Street Geelong 3216

Approx. Date: 1922-23

Integrity: Moderate-High

Significance Level: C (Local)

Photograph No: 04.14 & 04.15

Survey Date: March 2002



History

This site at 37 Fitzroy Street, Geelong, is located on part of Allotment no. 6, Section 66, of the Geelong Town Plan of 1881. The land was originally the property of J. McLean.

William Henry Orchard had a 5 room weatherboard house built at this location in 1922-23. A clerk by occupation, William owned and occupied the dwelling continuously until his death in 1965. Since then, the property has changed hands a number of times. A. G. Milson occupied it until at least the mid 1970s.

Description

The house at 37 Fitzroy Street, Geelong, is set on a large corner allotment. It has a modest front setback to Fitzroy Street, and a larger setback to Sydney Parade. The frontages are comprised of grassed areas and perimeter gardens, with some large trees near the corner and along the Fitzroy Street frontage. The front is bound along Fitzroy Street and partially along Sydney Parade by an introduced ripple iron and timber fence, approximately 1700 mm high. The remaining Sydney Parade boundary has a timber paling fence of approximately 1700 mm high.

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The asymmetrical, single storey, horizontal weatherboard, transitional Federation and interwar Californian Bungalow styled house has an L shaped form characterised by the hipped and gabled roofs clad in galvanised corrugated steel. Early unpainted brick chimneys with rendered tops, projecting cappings and terra cotta pots adorn the roofline. Broad overhangs with exposed timber rafters are features of the eaves.

A feature of the design is the return verandah under the hipped roofs. It is supported by introduced but appropriate square timber columns with introduced timber brackets.

Another feature of the design is the projecting bowed bays with timber framed casement windows with leadlight highlights and flat roofed hoods.

The timber framed doorway and leadlight sash are also early, as is the decorative gable infill (timber ventilators and brackets). The lowered hipped roof forms and lantern light at the rear of the house (fronting Sydney Parade) are later additions.

Statement of Cultural Significance

The house at 37 Fitzroy Street, Geelong, has significance as a reasonably intact example of a transitional Federation and interwar Californian Bungalow style. Built in 1922-23 for William Henry Orchard, the house appears to be in good condition when viewed from the street.

The house at 37 Fitzroy Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. It demonstrates original design qualities of a transitional Federation and interwar Californian Bungalow style. These qualities include the L shaped form, hipped and gabled roofs and the return corner verandah under the hipped roofs. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the asymmetrical composition, single storey height, horizontal weatherboard wall cladding, galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding, unpainted brick chimneys with rendered tops, projecting cappings and terra cotta pots, broad eaves with exposed timber rafters, square timber verandah columns with timber brackets, flat-roofed projecting bowed bays with timber framed casement windows and leadlight highlights, timber framed doorway and leadlight sash, and the decorative gable infill (timber ventilators and brackets).

The house at 37 Fitzroy Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with residential developments during the interwar (1920s-1940s) period. In particular, this house has associations with William Henry Orchard, original owner from 1922-23.

Overall, the house at 37 Fitzroy Street is of LOCAL significance.

References

Reports and Drainage Plans, Barwon Water profits system, 1922, 1957, 1988, 1989.
Electoral Roll. Division Corio, Subdivision Geelong, 1984, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
Sands & McDougall's 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), 1920-1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
Geelong Town Plan 1881, Geelong Historical Records Centre.

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