

## GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

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**Site Name:** Residence

**Project File No:** 0954

**Address:** 40 Grey Street East Geelong 3220

**Approx. Date:** 1897

**Integrity:** Moderate-High

**Significance Level:** C (Local)

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**Photograph No:** 05.12

**Survey Date:** March 2002

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### History

This site at 40 Grey Street, East Geelong, is located on parts of Allotments 83 and 84, Section 99, of the Geelong Town Plan of 1881.

A 4-roomed weatherboard house was built at this site in 1897 for Frederick G Westaway, a driver, who resided there until c.1910. During this time he added a fifth room as well as a verandah and bathroom. When the house was purchased by William Stevenson between 1910 and 1915, stables and a shed were also mentioned in the property description in the Geelong Rate Books (Barwon Ward) of the period. The address of the site in 1925 was 24 Grey Street and the Rate Book entry for that year suggests recent internal restructure, reducing the number of rooms in the house to four. For about 60 years, William Stevenson lived at this property (which had been re-addressed as 40 Grey Street by 1930).

### Description

The house at 40 Grey Street, East Geelong, is set on an average-sized allotment and has a modest front setback and narrow side setbacks. The front garden is especially distinguished by two introduced topiary shrubs and other plantings. The front is bound by

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a timber picket fence and gate that are approximately 1200 mm high.

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 grey-painted galvanised corrugated iron. Two early rendered brick chimneys with projecting tops and terra cotta pots adorn the roofline. Narrow overhangs are features of the eaves.

The symmetry of the design is accentuated by the early central front timber framed doorway and flanking early timber framed double hung windows. The doorway has a timber panelled door with an upper glazed panel and leadlighted sidelights. There is also an introduced timber framed screen door.

A feature of the design is the front verandah. It is supported by worked square timber columns and has early decorative blind timber fretwork valances that flank an early timber Art Nouveau arch with curvy timber fretwork. There is also a capped timber balustrade, the pattern simulating shingling. These decorative timber verandah features closely relate to Edwardian and Federation styled developments, while the form and most other details of the house relate to the Victorian style. Timber framed and frosted glazed timber screens flank the front doorway and are situated at the ends of the verandah.

### **Statement of Cultural Significance**

The house at 40 Grey Street, East Geelong, has significance as a predominantly intact example of a Late Victorian style. Built in 1897 for Frederick Westaway, the house appears to be in good condition when viewed from the street.

The house at 40 Grey 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 the bullnosed verandah that projects towards the street frontage. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the symmetrical composition, single storey height, horizontal weatherboard wall cladding, galvanised corrugated iron roof cladding, two rendered brick chimneys with projecting tops and terra cotta pots, narrow eaves, central front timber framed doorway with a timber panelled and glazed door and leadlighted sidelights, timber framed double hung windows, worked square timber verandah columns, decorative blind timber fretwork verandah valances that flank a timber Art Nouveau arch with curvy timber fretwork, and the capped timber verandah balustrade with a pattern simulating shingling. The front timber picket fence and gate also contribute to the significance of the place.

The house at 40 Grey Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with residential developments in East Geelong in the late 1890s. In particular, this house has associations with Frederick Westaway, driver and original owner from 1897, and with long-time owner, William Stevenson.

Overall, the house at 40 Grey Street is of LOCAL significance.

### **References**

Reports and Drainage Plans, Barwon Water profits system, 1926, 1927, 1983.  
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 (Ormond and Barwon Ward), 1896-1960.  
Geelong Town Plan 1881, Geelong Historical Records Centre.