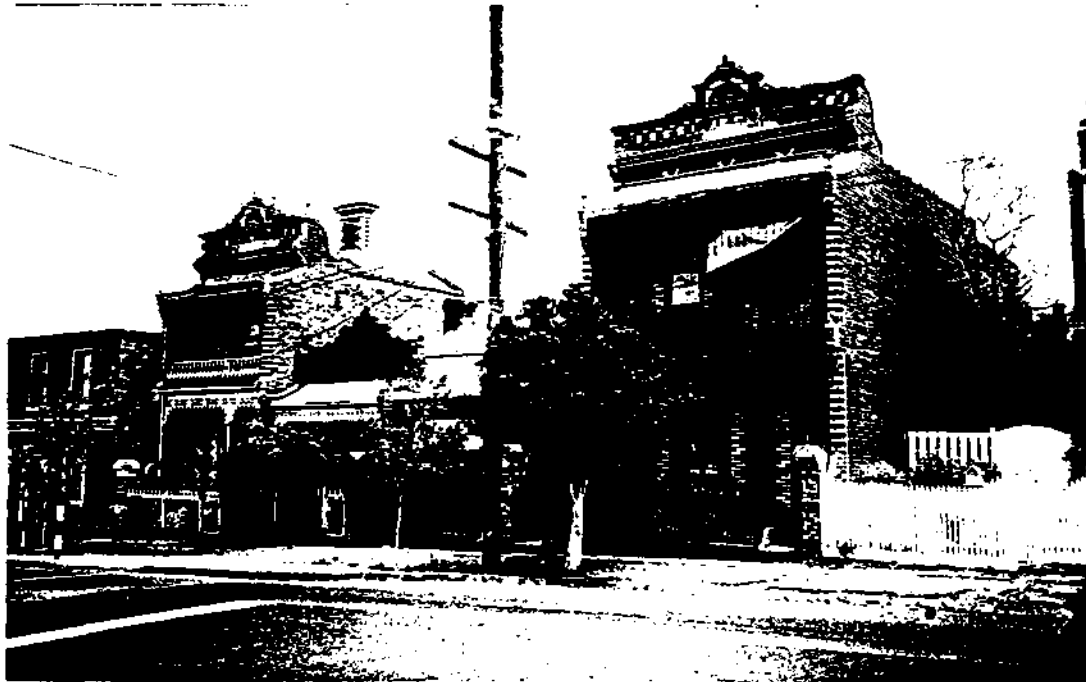


Building: Residences: "Minerva" (399), "Kew View" (405)
Address: 399-405 Wellington Street



Allotment Reference: Section 2, Lot 14
National Estate Register: Recommended
Historic Building Register: Recommended
National Trust Register: -
Location within Precinct: Clifton Hill Western Residential Precinct
Photo Date: October 1988
Grantee: J. Invest
Original Owner: George Cheel
Present Owner: -
Original Use: Residences
Present Use: Residences
Construction Date: 1885-1900
Architect: -

Builder:

George Cheel

Description:

A richly decorated tuckpointed polychrome brick terrace development of two central single storeyed dwellings flanked by two storeyed complimentary units. All four are richly decorated (Nos. 399 and 405 have unpainted stucco work), the parapets to Nos. 399 and 405 being of special interest. Black body bricks are relieved by reds and creams with complex patterns in the window spandrels. The verandah iron work is intact and is complimented by palisade iron fences with brick pillars. Verandah floors are encaustic tiled whilst the windows to Nos. 399 and 405 have unusual cast cement ornamentation. Cast iron wall brackets are also unusual and of interest.

Condition:

Good

Integrity:

Good

History:

In 1884 James Sawyers owned three blocks of land each with 24' frontage to the west side of Wellington Street between Kent and Council Streets. In 1885 Robert Best owned the northern block and George Cheel owned the other two blocks. Cheel subdivided his land into three blocks, commencing a brick house on the most southern block. The house was completed in 1886 and Cheel, a builder, lived there, (1884-1886 RB).

On the remaining 40' land, Cheel built two brick houses in 1887, leasing both of them.

By 1892 Cheel had purchased the remaining block of land and in 1899 he commenced building a brick house that he completed in 1900.

In 1900 Cheel continued as owner of the four houses and remained in residence in No. 399, (1887, 1893, 1900, 1901 RB).

Significance:

Nos. 399-405 Wellington Street are important at the State level for their unusual symmetrical terraced form. Their rich ornamentation is expressive of the late Victorian period whilst the cast cement ornamentation and cast iron brackets are unusual. The name "Kew View" for No. 405 is of interest.

Recommendations:

Recommended for inclusion on Historic Buildings Register, National Estate Register and for planning scheme protection.

References:

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