

GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

Site Name: Residence (Office)

Project File No: 0972

Address: 92 Little Myers Street Geelong 3220

Approx. Date: 1883

Integrity: Moderate

Significance Level: C (Local)

Photograph No: 07.23

Survey Date: March 2002



History

This site at 92 Little Myers Street, Geelong, is located on Allotment 17A, Section 21, of the 1881 Geelong Town Plan. The original owner of the land was John Caulfield.

A four roomed weatherboard house, with verandah and kitchen, was built at this site in 1883 for John Caulfield, who resided there until he moved to Port Melbourne in 1893. The house was then leased to a warder, John Phelan. A fifth room was added between 1883 and 1888, and, by 1896, there was also a bathroom, washhouse and workshop. The house has remained in the possession of the Caulfield family for many years. When John Caulfield died between 1900 and 1910, the property passed to his widow, Catherine Caulfield, who lived there for the remaining ten years of her life. A sixth room was added to the house in c.1899, and stables were erected by 1910.

By 1915, the property had been sold to Robert C. Andrews, who carried out significant plumbing and drainage work in 1919. Catherine died in c.1920, and the property was returned to the family in the person of John William Caulfield, who was a farm student at the time, but who was described in the Barwon Ward Rate Books from 1930 as a "gentleman". All references to stables had disappeared from the property description by 1930. John William Caulfield was owner/occupier of the place until 1972.

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This building was in poor condition until 1997 when it was sold and restoration works were carried out.

Description

The house at 92 Little Myers Street, Geelong, is set on a corner allotment which is wider than a number of blocks in the local area. The house has a modest front setback to Little Ryrie Street, an a similar setback to Oldfields Place, together with another narrower side setback. The front of the property is bound by an introduced timber picket fence with decorative timber posts and is approximately 1300 mm high. There is a side timber paling fence fronting Oldfields Place, with an introduced aluminium shed behind. An introduced gable carport is situated at the rear.

The asymmetrical, single storey, horizontal weatherboard, Victorian Picturesque styled house is characterised by a hipped roof form, together with a gable and bullnosed verandah that project towards the Little Myers Street frontage. These roof forms are clad in galvanised corrugated steel. Two early rendered brick chimneys with projecting cornices adorn the roofline. Narrow overhangs with paired timber brackets are features of the front eaves.

A feature of the design is the bullnosed verandah. It is supported by introduced timber columns with moulded capitals and is decorated with cast iron valances and brackets. Other early decorative features of the design include the timber gable bargeboards and the turned timber finial. The gable ventilator and possibly the finial appear to have been introduced.

The timber framed double hung tripartite window under the projecting gable, together with the other timber framed double hung windows at the front and side, also appear to be early. The timber framed doorway with sidelights is also early.

Statement of Cultural Significance

The house at 92 Little Myers Street, Geelong, has significance as a reasonably intact example of the Victorian Picturesque style. Built in 1883, the house appears to be in good condition when viewed from the street.

The house at 92 Little Myers Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. It demonstrates original design qualities of a Victorian Picturesque style. These qualities include the hipped roof form, together with the gable and bullnosed verandah that project towards the Little Myers Street frontage. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the asymmetrical composition, single storey height, horizontal weatherboard wall cladding, galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding, rendered brick chimneys, narrow eaves (including the timber brackets at the front), timber framed double hung windows (including the tripartite window at the front), timber verandah columns, cast iron verandah valances and brackets, decorative gable bargeboards, turned timber gable finial and the timber framed doorway with sidelights. The front timber picket fence also contributes to the significance of the place.

The house at 92 Little Myers Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with residential developments in Geelong in the 1880s. In particular, this house has associations with John Caulfield, original owner from 1883.

Overall, the house at 92 Little Myers Street is of LOCAL significance.

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References

Reports and Drainage Plans, Barwon Water profits system, 1919, 1972, 1997
Sands & McDougall's Directory of Geelong 1972, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
Sands & McDougall's "Invicta" Geelong Directory 1968, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
Geelong City Council Rate Books (Barwon Ward), 1883-1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
Town Plan of Geelong 1881, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
Old Law Title, vol. 1187, folio 236301, copy held by the City of Greater Geelong.