



### Row Houses, 33-37 Maud Street

#### History

Geelong builder, John Charles Taylor, owned (and presumably built) this trio in two stages. At first two grandahed brick houses, each of 4 rooms, cellar, kitchen, servant's room, pantry and bathroom (from 1878),<sup>1</sup> they had become three by c1885 and the end house (37) increased in size to six or seven rooms, although its valuation was the same as 35 Maud Street, its former pair. Taylor still owned the row, but by the early 1900s, Jane & Isabella Wood and the Watson Estate had replaced him.<sup>2</sup> One of Taylor's Maud Street houses was burnt down in 1876, possibly providing a vacant site for these buildings.<sup>3</sup>

#### Description

Comprised of three gabled bays which protrude from a transverse gabled main roof, this three-house row is built of two-colour brick and has a linking timber post verandah. Iron friezes are set into panels on the verandah and the roof gable fascias are particularly notable for their scalloped fretted designs and cast-iron infill details. A finely detailed verandah post capital is both distinctive and counterpoint to the more exuberant detail elsewhere.

Dog-toothed brickwork at the eaves and chimney cornices is further evidence of the likely architect-design of this row. Other elements include surviving terra-cotta chimney pots on a rear chimney.

#### External Integrity

Generally original except for fence replacement in the 1920s.

#### Streetscape

A major streetscape element in its own right, the row complements other late Victorian and Edwardian houses in the area.

#### Significance

Historically linked to the prolific Geelong builder J. C. Taylor's one of the firm's better housing examples on an intermediate scale.

Architecturally, a superior row house design both in the Geelong and State context given its date, scale and investment nature. It possesses distinctive details and finishes and contributes to a residential precinct.

RB1878, 97-98; RB1879, 97-8

RB1910, 515-7

see GA 25/7/76