

## GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

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**Site Name:** Residence

**Project File No:** 1075

**Address:** 50 Mundy Street South Geelong 3220

**Approx. Date:** 1864-65

**Integrity:** Moderate

**Significance Level:** C (Local)

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**Photograph No:** 01.25

**Survey Date:** March 2002

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### History

This site at 50 Mundy Street, Geelong, is located on part of Lot 4, Section 16a, of the Geelong Town Plan of 1881.

This 4-roomed weatherboard house was built in 1865 on a small parcel of land, with only a 26' frontage to Mundy Street. It was first owned and occupied by Benjamin Stokes, who lived there until his death between 1888 and 1893. He seems to have added a pantry in 1880 and a verandah by 1885. The house was administered by the Stokes Estate for a number of years, with Benjamin's widow, Elizabeth, residing there until her death in 1899. Ownership then passed to Martin Ryan, a farmer from North Geelong and from 1910 the owner of a carting business in Geelong West. In 1916, Daniel Mannix Hewitt, a waterside worker, extended the house to 6 rooms and carried out plumbing and drainage improvements in 1923.

Throughout the early 20th century and at least until 1939 the house was leased to William Nelson, a fettler. His widow, Annie, succeeded him as the occupier until the 1950s.

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## Description

The modest house at 50 Mundy Street, South Geelong, is set on a narrow allotment. The house abuts the front and side boundaries, with a timber picket verandah balustrade fence (approximately 1200 mm high) forming the front boundary.

The unusual, single storey, rudimentary Victorian styled house is characterised by a double gabled roof form that traverses the site, together with a rear skillion wing and a concave verandah that projects towards the street frontage. The main roof forms are clad in introduced corrugated colorbond, while the verandah is clad in early galvanised corrugated iron. An early unpainted red brick chimney adorns the roofline. Narrow overhangs are features of the eaves.

At the front and side are early timber framed double hung windows. There is also a timber framed doorway. The horizontal wall cladding has been introduced, possibly covering early horizontal timber weatherboards.

The early verandah is supported by stop chamfered timber columns with projecting capitals. There is also an introduced worked solid timber verandah valance.

## Statement of Cultural Significance

The modest house at 50 Mundy Street, South Geelong, has significance as a legacy of the rudimentary Victorian styled residential developments in South Geelong from the mid 19th century. Built in 1864-65 by Benjamin Stokes, this house appears to be in good condition, and is reasonably externally intact (apart from the false wall cladding).

The house at 50 Mundy Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. Although slightly altered, it still demonstrates original design qualities of a rudimentary Victorian style. These qualities include the double gable roof forms that traverse the site, together with the rear skillion wing and the front concave verandah that projects towards the street frontage. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the galvanised corrugated iron roof cladding to the verandah, unpainted red brick chimney, narrow eaves, single storey height, timber framed double hung windows, timber framed doorway, stop chamfered timber verandah columns and the valance. The front timber picket verandah balustrade fence also contributes to the significance of the place.

The house at 50 Mundy Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with residential developments in South Geelong in the 1860s. In particular, this house has associations with Benjamin Stokes, original owner from 1865, and it remained in the Stokes family until 1899.

Overall, the house at 50 Mundy Street is of LOCAL significance.

## References

Drainage Plans and Reports, 1923, 1972, 1973, 1983, 1993, Barwon Water profits system, City of Greater Geelong.

Voters' Roll, Barwon Ward, 1992, Geelong Historical Records Centre.

Sands & McDougall Directory, 1972.

Sands & McDougall "Invicta" Directory, 1968.

Electoral Roll, Division Corio, Subdivision Geelong, 1984, Geelong Historical Records Centre.

Geelong City Council Rate Books, Barwon Ward, 1864-1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.

Geelong Town Plan, 1881, Geelong Historical Records Centre.