



**Richard Ward house
226 Myers Street**

History

William Soden was the grantee in 1854, paying a gold-inflated £310. Soden sold this site and its twin to the east in 1855 for £90 each. Richard Ward eventually owned both, building a two-room timber house on each.¹ Under Ward's ownership, each house expanded first to 3 rooms, by c1860, and later to four rooms in the mid 1860s.²

Long-term occupiers include Nora Murray (owner) and William

Spencer (under Whitehill's tenure) but the dominant owner-occupier has been James Golightly, house painter, who was there from the late 1920s into the 1950s, Mrs. V Golightly remaining there in the 1960s.³ The Golightly family of building contractors are perhaps better known in Queenscliff where they carried out many projects this century.⁴

Description

Like 220 Myers Street, this house is entered from the side, despite the symmetry of its front elevation. A simple hipped roof form, pitched over two rooms, (?), with rear

skillion, bears the mark of a former chimney central to the ridge. The concave-roof verandah, with slender stop-chamfered posts (minus valence/brackets ?) and the multi-paned windows are further early details.

External Integrity

Added rooms at the rear of the skillion, a new fence which relates in part to the early fence types and removal of the chimney are the major changes.

Streetscape

This house and 220 Myers Street, must have stood alone for many years, with adjoining Edwardian and Bungalow-era housing nevertheless supporting it in form, materials and siting.

Significance

Historically, little is known of the owners and occupiers, with the exception of the Golightly family of building tradesmen who left few, if any, changes to the building exterior but, otherwise, an example of housing from the immediate post-gold boom in Geelong.

Architecturally, typical of early Geelong housing with surviving verandah details.

1 RGO SN42793; RB 1854-5, 795-6

2 VB 1865-6,316; VB 1860, 401-2

3 D1910-61; RB 1930,1613

4 see Queenscliffe Conservation Study