

GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

Site Name: Residence

Project File No: 1091

Address: 356 Myers Street East Geelong 3219

Approx. Date: 1921

Integrity: Moderate-High

Significance Level: C (Local)

Photograph No: 06.04

Survey Date: March 2002



History

This site at 356 Myers Street, East Geelong, on the corner of Myers Street and Meakin Street, is located on Crown Allotment 1, Section 94, of the 1881 Geelong Town Plan. One of the Belcher brothers was the original owner of the land.

In 1921, a 4-roomed weatherboard house was built at this location for John George Watson, a joiner. Watson resided there for at least 30 years, the property then passing to Ellie Ellie Watson, possibly his widow, who continued to occupy the house until at least the early 1970s. She had an internal toilet connected in 1959, but, otherwise, the house appears to have remained substantially unchanged since it was built.

Description

The house at 356 Myers Street, East Geelong, is set on a corner allotment. It has a substantial frontage to Myers and Meakin Streets, with a narrow side setback. The front garden consists of a well-landscaped perimeter flower and shrubbery bed, with open grassed areas. The front and side are bound by a notable timber post, capped and flat timber picket fence and corner lychgate. The fence is approximately 1300 mm high (the posts being approximately 1500 mm high), while the lychgate is approximately 2000 mm

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high.

The asymmetrical, single storey, horizontal weatherboard, interwar Bungalow styled house is characterised by complex roof forms including a rear recessed hipped roof, together with two gables that project towards the Myers Street frontage, a side gable that projects towards Meakin Street, and a flat-roofed corner verandah that projects towards Myers Street. These roof forms are clad in galvanised corrugated iron. Two early rendered brick chimneys with face brick straps and tops, and terra cotta pots, adorn the roofline. Wide overhangs and exposed timber rafters are features of the eaves.

A feature of the design is the early timber framed double hung windows. They are arranged as a bank under the verandah, and as a horizontal boxed bank of three under the projecting Myers Street gable. These windows are supported by small timber brackets.

The corner verandah porch is supported by an early tapered, stucco column on an unpainted red brick pier.

Other early features of the design include the gable infill (stuccoed wall finish and timber ventilators).

Statement of Cultural Significance

The house at 356 Myers Street, East Geelong, has significance as an intact example of the interwar Bungalow style. Built in 1921 for John Watson, the house appears to be in good condition when viewed from the street.

The house at 356 Myers Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. It demonstrates original design qualities of the interwar Bungalow style. These qualities include the complex roof forms including the rear recessed hipped roof, together with two gables that project towards the Myers Street frontage, the side gable that projects towards Meakin Street, and the flat-roofed corner verandah that projects towards Myers Street. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the asymmetrical composition, single storey height, horizontal weatherboard wall cladding, galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding, two rendered brick chimneys with face brick straps and tops and terra cotta pots, wide eaves with exposed timber rafters, timber framed double hung windows, including the boxed bank of the under the projecting Myers Street gable, small timber window brackets, tapered, stucco verandah column and unpainted red brick pier, and the gable infill (stuccoed wall finish and timber ventilators). The front capped and flat timber picket fence and lychgate also contribute to the significance of the place.

The house at 356 Myers Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with residential developments in East Geelong during the interwar (1920s-1940s) period. In particular, this house has associations with John Watson, original owner who had it built in 1921.

Overall, the house at 356 Myers Street is of LOCAL significance.

References

Reports and Drainage Plans, Barwon Water profits system, 1959.
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 (Ormond and Barwon Ward), 1921-1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
Town Plan of Geelong 1881, Geelong Historical Records Centre.