

## GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

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**Site Name:** Residence

**Project File No:** 1097

**Address:** 14 Orchard Street East Geelong 3219

**Approx. Date:** 1912

**Integrity:** Moderate-High

**Significance Level:** C (Local)

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**Photograph No:** 12.11

**Survey Date:** June 2002

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### History

This site at 14 Orchard Street, East Geelong, is located on Lot 46, LP3763, which is part of Crown Allotment no. 9, Section 92, of the Geelong Town Plan of 1881. The land was originally the property of G.F. Belcher.

Herbert Saywell, a law clerk of Ryrie Street, was the owner of fenced land at this location in 1910. In 1912 the land was sold to Ernest Brack, a carpenter, of Geelong West, who built a 5 roomed weatherboard house with bathroom and washhouse. The newly-built house was purchased by Norman Francis Crelley (or Crilley), a hairdresser (possibly under the name of his wife, Eva) in 1913, and they lived there until the mid to late 1920s. A Mrs. Martin of Fyans Street owned the residence for a brief period in c.1930, before it was purchased by Wilfred Isaac Whittington, a retired carpenter, of Myers Street (formerly employed by J.C. Taylor & Sons). He had purchased a few properties in East and South Geelong in the 1930s and 1940s. When Whittington died in April 1958, the house was sold to the then tenant, Clarence David Skepper and his wife, Mary Dorothea, who carried out substantial plumbing and drainage work on the site in 1968. They occupied the dwelling until at least the mid 1970s.

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## Description

The house at 14 Orchard Street, East Geelong, is set on a corner allotment and has a modest front setback and narrow side setbacks. The front garden is rudimentary, having a brick path, perimeter garden beds and grassed areas. The front is bound by an introduced capped timber picket fence and corner gate that are approximately 1200 mm high.

The asymmetrical, single storey, horizontal weatherboard, Federation styled house is characterised by a steeply pitched hipped roof form, together with minor gables that project at the front and side, and a hipped verandah that projects towards the street frontage. These roof forms are clad in galvanised corrugated steel. Two early unpainted red brick chimneys with multi-corbelled tops and terra cotta pots adorns the roofline. Modest eaves with exposed timber rafters are features of the eaves.

A feature of the design is the projecting bowed bay under the front gable. It has early timber framed casement windows with leadlight highlights, and timber shingling above. The other bank of three timber framed casement windows with highlights and a timber framed window hood (supported by large timber brackets) above. The window hood is currently being restored, with the galvanised corrugated steel cladding removed. The other timber framed double hung windows under the front verandah and at the sides are also early, as is the timber framed front doorway with a panelled timber door having a glazed upper panel and transom window. The timber framed screen door is recent.

Another feature of the design is the front verandah. It is supported by worked decorative timber columns with elaborate capitals. The verandah also has introduced plain timber fascias and a timber and glazed screen at the north end.

Other early decorative features of the design include the gable infill (stucco-like panelling and timber battening, and the timber brackets).

## Statement of Cultural Significance

The house at 14 Orchard Street, East Geelong, has significance as a predominantly intact example of the Federation style. Built in 1912 for Herbert Saywell, law clerk, the house appears to be in good condition when viewed from the street.

The house at 14 Orchard Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. It demonstrates original design qualities of the Federation style. These qualities include the steeply pitched hipped roof form, together with the minor gables that project at the front and side, and the hipped verandah that projects towards the street frontage. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the asymmetrical composition, single storey height, horizontal weatherboard wall cladding, galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding, two unpainted red brick chimneys with multi-corbelled tops and terra cotta pots, modest eaves with exposed timber rafters, front projecting bowed bay with timber framed casement windows, leadlight highlights and timber shingling above, side bank of three timber framed casement windows with highlights and a timber framed window hood (supported by large timber brackets), other timber framed double hung windows under the front verandah and at the sides, timber framed front doorway with a panelled timber door having a glazed upper panel and transom window, worked decorative timber verandah columns with elaborate capitals, and the gable infill (stucco-like panelling and timber battening, and the timber brackets). The front capped timber picket fence and gate also contribute to the significance of the place.

The house at 14 Orchard Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with residential developments in East Geelong during the Federation

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(c.1895-1915) period. In particular, this house has associations with Herbert Saywell, law clerk and original owner who had it built in 1912.

Overall, the house at 14 Orchard Street is of LOCAL significance.

### References

Reports and Drainage Plans, Barwon Water profits system, 1968.

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 Wards), 1910-1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.

Town Plan of Geelong 1881, Geelong Historical Records Centre.