

GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

Site Name: Residence

Project File No: 1106

Address: 3 Pevensey Street Geelong 3220

Approx. Date: 1860-61

Integrity: Low-Moderate

Significance Level: C (Local)

Photograph No: 06.17

Survey Date: March 2002



History

This site at 3 Pevensey Street, Geelong, now called "Duncan's Place", is located on Lot 1, subdivisional Plan SP35713, which is on Crown Allotment no. 7, Section 58B, of the Geelong Town Plan of 1858. The original owner of the land was J. Noble.

This 2 storeyed brick house, originally called "Pleasant View House", was built for Morris Jacobs in 1860-61. He had arrived in the colony in 1852 and married Frances Emma Burnett in 1854. Jacobs established a thriving drapery business in a store situated on part of the land now occupied by Myers department store in Malop Street. Pleasant View House was home to Morris and Emma Jacobs until the 1870s, and three of their children were born there in 1861, 1864 and 1866 respectively. The house at first consisted of 4 rooms, with a weatherboard kitchen, servant's room and pantry at the rear, but had grown to a 7-roomed house by 1865, and to 9 rooms by 1868. It was also in this year when Jacobs had another 2 storeyed residence of similar size built at no. 7 Pevensey Street. By 1872, Pleasant View House boasted a balcony, and both properties had a bluestone cellar, tank and garden in 1881, by which time the Jacobs family had moved to another area. Morris Jacobs retained possession of the Pevensey Street houses, leasing them to Hendy and Leary & Co., agents, until the mid 1890s. Internal ceilings and the ceiling of the balcony were made of pressed metal, and the fireplaces were of bluestone.

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The two properties were purchased by Samuel Jacobs (possibly a nephew of Morris) in the late 1890s. Samuel, also a draper, lived in Morris's old home, leasing no. 7 to a succession of different tenants until both houses were relinquished in the 1920s. The new owners were Oswald Menzies Duncan and Lilian Margaret Duncan. They carried out extensions on both sites, no. 3 being enlarged to 16 rooms by 1930, with a view to converting the buildings to flats. Four flats were established at no. 3 Pevensey Street, with one being reserved as a residence for the Duncan family. Rear two storey units were constructed in the late 1990s, when further alterations were made to the main house.

Description

The house at 3 Pevensey Street, Geelong, is set on a contextually large allotment, with three introduced, two storey, rendered brick, pitched roofed units with galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding. The original house at the front has a modest front setback with one narrow side setback and a wide side setback having a concrete driveway. The front is bound by an introduced fence with rendered brick piers and plinth and cast iron palisades and gates, the whole being approximately 1600 mm high. The front garden consists of substantial garden beds behind the fence.

The two storey, rendered bluestone, Victorian styled house is characterised by a hipped roof form clad in slate tiles behind a moulded and dentillated parapet. The front facade has an introduced skillion balcony and verandah with a central gable roof, the verandah roofs being clad in galvanised corrugated steel. The first floor balcony is supported by recent square timber posts and timber fascias punctuated by projecting timber brackets that support the narrow eaves. The capped and tapered timber shingled balcony balustrade appears to have been introduced in the early 20th century and recently reconstructed. The ground floor verandah is supported by introduced paired timber columns with simple introduced fretwork valances between and projecting elongated timber brackets.

The symmetrically arranged timber framed openings with moulded timber architraves on the front facade of the first floor appear to be early, however, the central timber and glazed French doors and flanking windows have been introduced. On the ground floor, the side timber framed doorway with transom window and two single timber framed double hung windows with moulded timber architraves appear to be early, but the panelled timber door, leadlighted glazing in the transom window and the timber framed screen door have been introduced.

Another early feature of the design includes the rendered bluestone quoinwork at the building corners. However, the rendered wall construction simulating ashlar masonry blockwork on the ground floor at the front, the side gabled wing (north elevation) and the timber brackets and timber shingling balcony gable infill have been introduced.

Statement of Cultural Significance

The house at 3 Pevensey Street, Geelong, has significance as a legacy of substantial 19th century residential developments in Geelong. Originally built in 1860-61, the house has experienced several alterations and additions, but the form and construction is intact and the building appears to be in good condition when viewed from the street.

The house at 3 Pevensey Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. Although altered, it still demonstrates original design qualities of a Victorian style. These qualities include the two storey height, rendered bluestone wall construction, and the hipped roof form clad in slate tiles behind a moulded and dentillated parapet. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the symmetrically arranged timber framed openings with moulded timber architraves on the first floor, timber framed double hung windows with

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moulded timber architraves on the ground floor, rendered bluestone quoinwork at the building corners, and the timber framed ground floor doorway with transom window above. The skillion balcony and verandah have been reconstructed and are representative of a significant change in the early 20th century, with its projecting balcony gable, timber balcony and verandah posts and the tapered timber shingled balcony balustrade.

The original house at 3 Pevensey Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with substantial residential developments in Geelong in the second half of the 19th century. In particular, this house has associations with Morris Jacobs, successful draper and original owner who had it built in 1860-61. He also instigated additions and alterations in 1865 and 1868 and by 1872 he had built a balcony at the front. The Jacobs family were long time owners of the property until the 1920s.

Overall, the house at 3 Pevensey Street is of LOCAL significance.

References

- Reports and Drainage Plans, Barwon Water profits system, 1989.
- Voters' Roll, Bellerine Ward, 1992, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
- 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 (Bellerine Ward), 1895-1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
- Geelong City Council Valuations Books (Bellerine Ward), 1859-1895, Geelong Historical records Centre.
- Town Plan of Geelong 1858, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
- Morrow, W.J., Index to the Geelong Advertiser, 1850-1866, Geelong Historical records Centre.
- The Geelong Advertiser, 4 September 1952, Geelong Historical Records Centre.