

GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

Site Name: Residence

Project File No: 1138

Address: 336 Ryrie Street Geelong 3220

Approx. Date: 1914

Integrity: Moderate-High

Significance Level: C (Local)

Photograph No: 12.01

Survey Date: March 2002



History

This site at 336 Ryrie Street, Geelong, is located on parts of Allotments 4 and 5, Section 65, of the 1881 Geelong Town Plan. W. Burrow was the original proprietor of the land.

A 7-roomed weatherboard house, with bathroom and a shed, was built at this location for saddler, Valentine Augustus Noreda, in 1914, on land purchased in the previous year from William Picken Carr. H Learmonth bought the house in 1920 and carried out a major upgrade, including internal alterations to enlarge the building to 8 rooms, prior to reselling the property to Iliffe Gordon Anderson, an architect. In 1925 Anderson sold the dwelling to William Denis Foley, a farmer, of Queenscliff Road. Improved bathroom, toilet and kitchen facilities were installed in both the ground and first floors of the house in 1926, prior to the property being sold again, this time to householder, Sarah Wood, who appears to have been responsible for the conversion of the house into 3 flats by 1930, Sarah herself occupying one of them until her death in the late 1940s. In 1950, the executors of Sarah Woods' Estate sold the residence to Arthur Henry and Gwendoline Michael, who jointly owned and occupied the flats until the 1960s. In 1972, a Mr. and Mrs. Sutherland, owners of no. 334 Ryrie Street, also took possession of no. 336, now called "Grange Flats".

The owner in the early 1920s, I.G. Anderson, was a well-known architect in Melbourne in

GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

the 1920s and 1930s. He was responsible for the design of numerous shops, dwellings and some larger buildings. In Geelong, Anderson designed the Geelong West Town Hall in 1923, and in 1926 he was responsible for the design of the Belcher's Corner building, 141-149 Ryrie Street, for Norman Belcher.

Description

The house at 336 Ryrie Street, Geelong, is set on an average-sized allotment for the local area. The house has a very short front setback with an overgrown garden, and narrow side setbacks. The front is bound by a temporary cyclone wire fence, although there is one section of early capped timber picket fence (approximately 1300 mm high) with a rounded timber post (approximately 1500 mm high) in the north-west corner.

The two storey, horizontal weatherboard, unusual Edwardian styled house is characterised by a jerkin head roof form, together with two projecting single storey rectangular and parapetted bays at the front and recessed flat roofed dormers that project at the sides. These roof forms are clad in galvanised corrugated iron, with flat skylights on the eastern and western roof faces. Early unpainted red brick chimneys with rendered bands and terra cotta pots adorn the roofline. Modest overhangs are features of the eaves.

A feature of the design is the front projecting bays with a recessed central entrance having exposed timber rafters in the porch ceiling. The west bay has an altered bank of three timber framed windows, with a central pair of casements flanked by double hung windows. The eastern bay has a bank of early casements with decorative leadlight highlights. The recessed entrance has an early panelled timber door with a three-paned frosted glass upper panel, and an early, flanking timber framed portal window with introduced frosted glass. Above the entrance is an projecting rectangular bay under the jerkin head roof which has an early bank of timber framed casement windows and timber shingled side and tapered base walls with projecting timber mouldings.

Above the front projecting ground floor bays are two early narrow timber ventilators with bracketed timber sills and drip moulds. There is also another early timber framed portal window with early decorative leadlighting to the east of the eastern ground floor bay.

At the front to the east is an introduced timber staircase which leads to a side timber framed doorway in the upper projecting bay.

Other early features of the design include the timber shingled wall cladding and the timber framed windows on the side dormers.

Statement of Cultural Significance

The house at 336 Ryrie Street, Geelong, has significance as a reasonably intact and unusual example of the Edwardian style. Built in 1914 for Valentine Noreda, the house appears to have suffered consideration deterioration in recent years.

The house at 336 Ryrie Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. It demonstrates original design qualities of an unusual Edwardian style. These qualities include the jerkin head roof form, together with two projecting single storey rectangular and parapetted bays at the front and the recessed flat roofed dormers that project at the sides. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the two storey height, galvanised corrugated iron roof cladding, horizontal weatherboard wall cladding, flat skylights on the eastern and western roof faces, unpainted red brick chimneys with rendered bands and terra cotta pots, modest eaves, recessed central entrance having exposed timber rafters in the porch ceiling, central pair of casements on the projecting western ground floor bay,

GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

bank of timber framed casement windows with decorative leadlighted highlights on the front projecting bay, panelled timber door with a three-paned frosted glass upper panel, timber framed portal windows including the decorative leadlighting in the eastern portal, projecting rectangular first floor bay under the jerkin head roof with a bank of timber framed casement windows and timber shingled side and tapered base walls with projecting timber mouldings, two early narrow timber ventilators with bracketed timber sills and drip moulds above the ground floor bays, and the timber shingled wall cladding and timber framed windows on the side dormers. The remaining portion of the capped timber picket fence with a rounded timber post at the north-western corner also contributes to the significance of the place.

The house at 336 Ryrie Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with residential developments in Geelong during the Edwardian (c.1890-1915) period. In particular, this house has associations with Valentine Noreda, original owner who instigated construction in 1914. The house has further associations with the owner and architect, I.G. Anderson, in the early 1920s. Anderson was responsible for the designs of the Geelong West Town Hall in 1923 and the Belcher's Corner building in Ryrie Street in 1926.

Overall, the house at 336 Ryrie Street is of LOCAL significance.

References

- Reports and Drainage Plans, Barwon Water profits system, 1922, 1926, 1952, 1972.
- Voters' Roll, Bellerine Ward, 1992, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
- Electoral Roll, Division Corio, Subdivision Geelong, 1984, 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), 1910-1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
- Town Plan of Geelong 1881, Geelong Historical Records Centre.
- M. Lewis, The Australian Architectural Index, University of Melbourne, 2000.