

GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

Site Name: Residence

Project File No: 1142

Address: 360 Ryrie Street Geelong 3220

Approx. Date: 1859-60

Integrity: Moderate

Significance Level: C (Local)

Photograph No: 03.21

Survey Date: March 2002



History

This site at 360 Ryrie Street, Geelong, is located on part of Crown Allotment no.3, Section 66, of the Geelong Town Plan of 1858. The land was originally owned by G. Guthrie.

This 4-roomed weatherboard house was built as a 2 roomed cottage, with verandah, in 1859-60 for William Walker, a carter. It is uncertain whether this William Walker is the same as the William Walker who later established a bus service in Geelong in 1886. Walker enlarged the dwelling, first to 3 rooms in the mid 1860s, and, in the mid 1870s, to 4 rooms. He occupied the house until some time between 1905 and 1910, by which time it was in the possession of Annie Fraser, householder, of Geelong West. The property has changed hands many times since then. Known owners include the following -

Henry Markham, butcher, of William Street (1915)

Richard Hall, gentleman (1920s)

Albert Richard Eldridge, speculator (1930)

John James Carrig, postman (1940)

John Henry Gough, foreman, and his wife, Jean Lillian (1950)

Arthur Maxwell and Halbert James Cox, employees at International Harvester Pty. Ltd., (1957 - 1972)

Halbert James Cox, storeman, (1972-1976)

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Graeme Leslia Purnell (1982)

There is evidence of renovations being carried out on the property by Richard Hall in the 1920s. These works appear to have included the rebuilding of the brick chimney.

Description

The house at 360 Ryrie Street, Geelong, is set on a narrow allotment and takes up the full width of the block. It has a modest front setback with perimeter flower beds at the front. It is bound at the front by a timber picket fence and gate that are approximately 1200 mm high.

The symmetrical, single storey, horizontal weatherboard, rudimentary Victorian styled house is characterised by a simple gable roof form that traverses the site, together with a projecting rendered party wall to the east and a skillion verandah that projects towards the street frontage. These roof forms are clad in galvanised corrugated steel. The house appears to have been altered, with the unpainted brick chimney at the side possibly dating from the 1920s. The front verandah is also supported by introduced timber columns with decorative timber brackets and fretwork valance.

However, early features of the design include the central timber framed doorway and the flanking timber framed double hung windows.

Statement of Cultural Significance

The house at 360 Ryrie Street, Geelong, has significance as a legacy of 19th century residential developments in this part of Geelong, and as an example of a rudimentary Victorian style. Built in 1859-60, the house appears to have been altered but is in good condition when viewed from the street.

The house at 360 Ryrie Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. It demonstrates original design qualities of a rudimentary Victorian style. These qualities include the simple gable roof form that traverses the site, together with the projecting rendered party wall to the east and the skillion verandah that projects towards the street frontage. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the unpainted brick chimney, central timber framed doorway, timber framed double hung windows, horizontal weatherboard wall cladding, galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding, and the timber verandah columns and fretwork valance. The front timber picket fence and gate also contribute to the significance of the place.

The house at 360 Ryrie Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with residential developments in Geelong in the second half of the 19th century. In particular, this house has associations with William Walker, a carter and original owner who instigated construction in 1859-60. It may have been this William Walker who established a bus service in Geelong in 1886.

Overall, the house at 360 Ryrie Street is of LOCAL significance.

References

Reports and Drainage Plans, Barwon Water profits system, 1922, 1944, 1976, 1983, 1986.
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 (Barwon Ward), 1858-1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.

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Town Plan of Geelong 1858, Geelong Historical Records Centre.

Investigator, Magazine of the Geelong Historical Society, March 1986, Geelong Historical Records Centre.