

Longrig, 15 Swanston Street

History

In 1892, a five-room weatherboard house was built on this block, owned and occupied by ironmonger, James Hamilto it later Kate Hamilton. By the early 1900s, the occupier-owner is unchanged but an increase in the property's valuation indicates a thorough renovation around 1909-10, when one room was added to the description. Given the original typical Victorian era symmetry of the plan, its change to a full-blown Edwardian style has been skillfully achieved.

Description

Clad with weatherboards and roofed in corrugated iron, the house design is deceptively asymmetrical, with a broad roof gable over a front porch on the south, a central hipped-roof tower and a more typical slatted verandah on the north. Together, these elements offer a picturesque combination of line and form, the latter promoted by the tower and gable and the former by the wave-pattern slatted verandah friezes, scalloped boarding and radiused gable, half-timbering. Shallow window bays, facing the porch and verandah, complement the smaller version set in the tower. Stylistically, the house follows the Federa-

tion Bungalow mode, using Eastern forms and ornaments. The picket fence is sympathetic, if not a modification of the original.

External Integrity

Generally original.

Streetscape

One of a significant Edwardian house pair and similar to adjacent Bungalow-era housing, a contributing part of the general Edwardian and late Victorian era precinct 3.06.

Significance

Architecturally, a highly successful assumed adaptation of Victorian era house, this is now a fully articulated Federation Bungalow styled example of a house type closely identified with Geelong.

Historically, a long identification with the Hamilton family.

RB1892, 148; RB1909, 178; RB1910, 178 (adjoining vacant site valuation static.

City of Geelong Urban Conservation Study Significant Sites

Streetscape

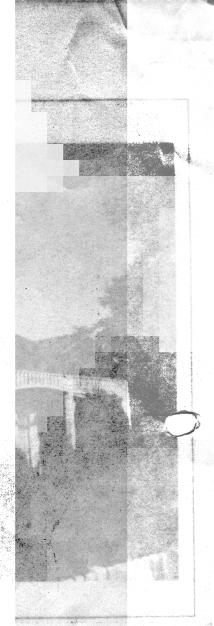
A major corner element in an important Edwardian and Victorian era streetscape, also contributory to the similar era precinct 3.7.

Significance

Historically, inhabited by the middle and professional classes, but it is more identifiable as the St. Margaret's Private Hospital, a locally prominent institution.

Architecturally, an unusual building type for Geelong, which has been detailed in a distinctive manner, particularly the verandah.

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