

PLACE NAME: SUNNYSIDE WOOL SCOUR
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: CITY OF GEELONG

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY (References)

STYLE OR PERIOD: Industrial Structure

ARCHITECT(S)/DESIGN ORIGIN:
Reference:

BUILDER: Wool Scour by Humble & Sons and J. Dyson &
Reference: Co.
Makers' names cast on machinery.

PRINCIPAL ARTISANS/ARTISTS/TRADES
Reference:

TENDER NOTICE:
Reference:

DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION
Reference:

ESTIMATE/CONTRACT VALUE

SUBSEQUENT WORKS/ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS

The complex of buildings has undergone repeated rebuild-
ings and alterations. Machinery has also undergone
modification and replacements.

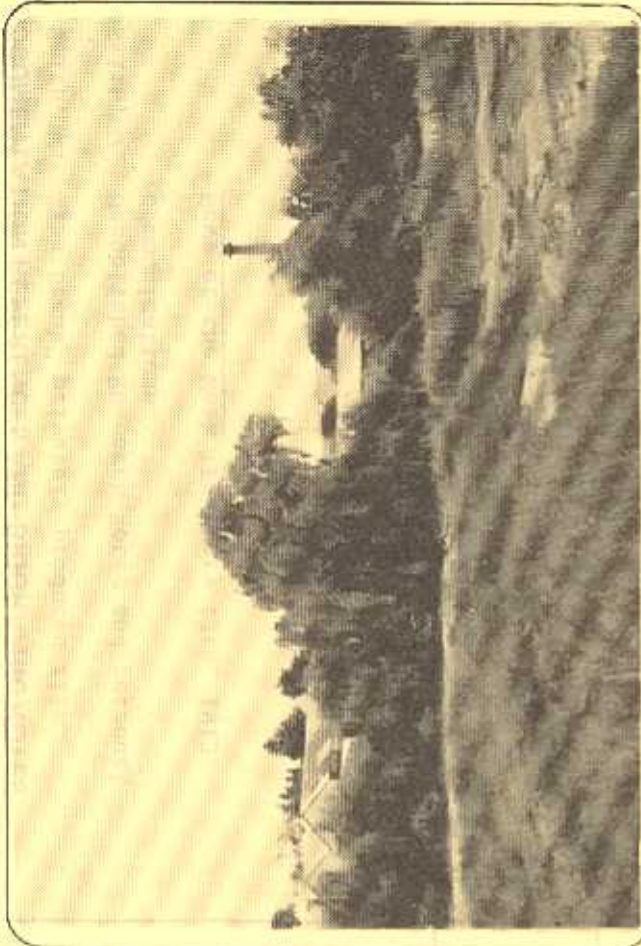
ORIGINAL OWNER(S)/OCCUPANT(S)

Thomas Marshall owner in 1850.

SUBSEQUENT SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/OCCUPANTS

John Haworth
Henry O'Beirne

OTHER NOTES The letters J.H. are displayed on the
chimney using contrasting brick colours. This
apparently refers to John Haworth.



NEGATIVE FILE:

☐

Australian Heritage Commission
Register of National Estate

☐

Historic Buildings Preservation Council
Register No.
File No.

☐

National Trust of Aust. (Vic)
Classified/Recorded
File No.

☒

Geelong Regional Commission
Register No.

IDENTIFICATION DATA

PLACE NAME
ADDRESS

Sunnyside Wool Scour
Breakwater Road,
Breakwater.

76 Tucker St
Breakwater

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA
TITLE INFORMATION

City of Geelong

MAP REFERENCE

PRESENT USE Wool Store

PRESENT OWNER/LESSEE G.N. & P.M. Callan,

ADDRESS 8 Stephen Street,
Newtown.

TELEPHONE

PLACE NAME SUNNYSIDE WOOL SCOUR
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CITY OF GEELONG

DOCUMENTATION REFERENCES AND BIOGRAPHIC NOTES

Smith, W. "The Break" privately produced film.
Smith, W. Unpublished Research Notes and personal communications.

News of the Week February 13th, 1913.

CITATION

The area downstream from the Breakwater was the earliest major industrial area of Geelong, being developed from the 1840's onwards predominantly with wool scours, fellmongeries, tanneries and boiling down works. The wool industries of Geelong came to have national importance until after the second world war, as a wool processing and manufacturing centre. The Sunnyside Wool Scour, incorporating components of buildings and equipment from throughout its period of operation, remains as the only intact complex downstream of the Breakwater. The full range of equipment including soaking tanks, sweat house, locally manufactured scour and press, survive. The site is of outstanding importance to the industrial and technological history of Geelong and Victoria.

SIGNIFICANCE OF PLACE

- ☒ Its creative and/or technical accomplishment.
☒ Its demonstration of a way of life, custom, process or function no longer practised, in danger of being lost or of exceptional interest.
☒ Its strong association with an important figure or figures, development, or cultural phase.
☐ Its townscape and/or landscape value.
☒ Its scarcity value.

SIGNIFICANCE

☐ LOCAL ☐ REGIONAL ☐ STATE ☒ NATIONAL ☐ WORLD

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT ☒ GOOD ☐ FAIR ☐ DETERIORATED ☐ RUINS

INTEGRITY

☒ HIGH ☐ LOW ☐ ALTERED ☐ DAMAGED

RECOMMENDATIONS: PROTECTIVE MEASURES

Geelong Regional Commission Register

Historic Buildings Council Register

Australian Heritage Commission Register of the National Estate

National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Register.

DOCUMENTATION — Allan Willingham, Architect, 151 McKean St.,
North Fitzroy, 3068. Tel: 03 489 8492.

SIGNATURE.....DATE.....



Cottage demolished 1989

Tweed Wool Co. Ltd., former wool scouring works and cottage 90 Tucker Street

History

After English and Alex McFee received the Grant for this and the adjoining allotment in 1849. By 1853, McFee only was the owner of CA5/1, remaining so until 1872 when he sold the land and 'premises' to George Bayldon and George Fraser for £300.¹ From that time the two lots CA4-5/1 were owned by the partners but only until a mortgage ended with its loss to George Guthrie & Co. who by 1874 had mortgaged the obviously improved plant to the extent of £2000. By 1882 it was the property of the Tweed Wool Co. Ltd. who mortgaged it 3 years later for £8424/16/7.

Guthrie's plant was described in 1884 as of weather-board and stone with 3 large sheds for washing and drying the wool.² Michael Hardyman occupied the four-

room cottage which adjoined.³ Most of the works and the cottage were demolished early 1989.

Description

Until recently a complex consisting of the modified early stone (basalt) and brick section, a later timber-framed drying sheds (also altered) and a simple early double-fronted timber cottage, the original fabric of this group has been recently reduced to the stone section. This section presumably once had a pitched roofline and evidently different floor levels. Red bricks used in machine rooms at the rear of the stone wing are pressed with the maker's name: 'Widdicombe Port Arlington' and 'T.H. Widdicombe Port Arlington.'

Widdicombe owned the Portarlington mill until it closed in 1874, as well as the adjacent brick yards. His bricks were used in the Portarlington Bellerine Presbyterian church of 1872.⁴ Drysdale Anglican Church (1872).⁵ By c1884 Thomas Widdicombe had moved to Ballarat,⁶ after listings as a miller in the mid-1870s. Hence, the

1 RGO 35271
2 RB 1884.827
3 RB 1884.826
4 INV. 9.71, pp.81-2
5 INV. 6.1977, p.49
6 WD1884.5



Basalt rubble possible engine room, now minus roof and timber framed store once attached on the north.

presence of his bricks confirm the major improvements coursed out in c1874, apparently the recently demolished brick wing adjoining the stone section.

External Integrity

The complex is all but gone with the exception of the earliest basalt section.

Streetscape

Visually connected to the adjacent Sunnyside complex, this site is to be redeveloped.

Significance

Historically, a small remnant of the early fellmongery works which led to the industrial development of South Geelong and the continued prosperity from wool-oriented industry.

Architecturally, greatly modified and currently without evidence of its former state, it is difficult to interpret.