

House
75 Leeds Street (Corner Cassowary),
Doncaster East.

This house was built in 1909-10 for Tom Petty, pioneer fruitgrower, and occupied by Patrick Cashen, fruitgrower. It stood on 28 acres of land.¹³⁴ It is thought that Cashen may have been a relative as well as an employee of Petty, a former weaver from Bradford in England. Petty arrived in Doncaster in 1853 and became a successful Doncaster orchardist with a farm on the south side of Doncaster Road.¹³⁵ Petty owned the site of the Leeds Street house at least from 1894. The year before the house was built, Cashen was recorded as the occupier of its site, 29 acres of vacant land between Leeds Street and Blackburn Road owned by Petty.¹³⁶

The house continued to be occupied by orchardists. Between 1911 and 1917 Tom Petty (now living at Box Hill) let it to Samuel Maggs, fruitgrower and orchardist.¹³⁷ Later, in 1919, Petty sold the property to Claude Bell, orchardist, who was there still in the mid-1920s.¹³⁸

Of *local historical significance*. for its associations with Petty pioneer fruitgrower and other local orchardists, Patrick Cashen, Samuel Maggs and Claude Bull.

¹³⁴ Shire of Doncaster RB 1909-10 No.47 (NAV 91 pounds).

¹³⁵ Irvine Green, *The Orchards of Doncaster and Templestowe*, p.7.

¹³⁶ Shire of Doncaster RB 1894 No.238 (NAV 19 pounds); 1908-9 Nos. 55 and 50 pounds).

¹³⁷ Shire of Doncaster RB 1911-12 No.49; 1917-18 No.221.

¹³⁸ Shire of Doncaster RB 1919-20 Doncaster Riding No.273; 1923-24 No.51.