

**Smith house (or Sunnyside Farm)  
134-136 Atkinson Street  
(Cnr. Williamson Rd), Templestowe.**

This Italianate timber residence built for James Smith Sen., farmer, most probably dates from 1888, and originally stood on about 97 acres of land<sup>167</sup> north of Foote Street and east of Anderson Street.<sup>168</sup> Smith was rated in the 1870s and early 1880s for a farm and garden, or farm and orchard, on the Templestowe Road.<sup>169</sup> At this time, Foote Street was shown on maps as an extension of Templestowe Road, Anderson Street existed but was unnamed, Williamson Street did not continue across Foote Street and Atkinson Street did not exist. The rating of Smith's property increased from the middle 1870s and almost doubled between 1887 and 1888, when his new house was built<sup>170</sup>

The house is said to have been designed by Reed, Henderson and Smart. However, a search of this firm's records (now held in the files of the firm Bates, Smart and McCutcheon) failed to confirm the designing architect for Smith's house as a member of that firm. The only Smith for whom work records are held is E. Edmond Smith, of Howard Smith (the shipping firm). Specifications dated July 1890 for E. E. Smith relate to a brick house on the corner of Castle and Hawdon Streets, Heidelberg. Earlier specifications for E. E. Smith prepared by this firm are for alterations and a new front fence for his residence, Sylvetta, at Parkville.<sup>171</sup>

The Smith house, owned still by James Smith, was identified at the turn of the century in the vicinity of the present Atkinson Street, on part of lot 1, lots 2 and 6, and parts of lots 7 to 10 in Section 13 in the Parish of Bulleen.<sup>172</sup> This block of land was indicated east of the Township of Templestowe shown on Lands Department maps of the time.<sup>173</sup> By 1909, Smith's house allotment had been reduced to just over 84 acres.<sup>174</sup>

Of *local historical significance* as the residence of James Smith Sen., pioneer district farmer.

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<sup>167</sup> Shire of Bulleen RB 1888 Templestowe Riding No.122 (NAV 293 pounds).

<sup>168</sup> *Parish of Bulleen* Directory Maps of the County of Bourke, 1892.

<sup>169</sup> Templestowe District Board RB 1870 No.210 (NAV 87 pounds ten shillings), Shire of Bulleen RB 1882 Templestowe Riding No.101 (NAV 127 pounds).

<sup>170</sup> Shire of Bulleen RB 1875 Templestowe Riding No.197 (NAV 127 pounds); 1887 No.105 (NAV 150 pounds); 1888 No.122 (NAV 293 pounds).

<sup>171</sup> Bates, Smart and McCutcheon records, Melbourne University Archives checked by Frank Strahan, Archivist.

<sup>172</sup> Shire of Templestowe RB 1905-6 Templestowe Riding No.154.

<sup>173</sup> *Bulleen*. T.F. McGauran, Dept. of Lands and Survey, 30 Aug. 1906.

<sup>174</sup> Shire of Templestowe RB 1909-10 Templestowe Riding No.177 (NAV 140 pounds).