

This sheet should be read in conjunction with Graeme Butler & Associates, *Geelong City Urban Conservation Study*, Vol. 1-5, 1991.



### 30 Western Beach Road

#### History

Tom Hawkes, a wealthy Geelong merchant was living in Western Beach in the 1880s in a property known as 'Roseneath'. By 1888 Tom Hawkes had moved to a new Western Beach property, now number 30, known as 'Llanberris' and described in the rate books as a two storey brick dwelling with kitchen, bathroom, stables and land. Tom Hawkes still retained ownership of his original Western beach residence, 'Roseneath'. An ownership chart, detailing the history of several substantial Western Beach properties, including 30 Western Beach Road has been prepared by Peter Alsop and is held at the Geelong Historical Records Centre.

The Records Centre also holds a copy of an article by 'Corian', entitled 'Old Geelong No. 8' published in the *Geelong Times* 1921-1922. This article states, "The beautiful home of Mr T. Hawkes was built by Mr Broomfield". The article went on to describe this dwelling as a feature house of Geelong set in the midst of magnificent gardens.

The *Geelong Advertiser*, 27 November 1894, reported the death of Tom Hawkes Senior at his Western Beach property known as 'Llanberris'. The house then passed into the hands of Tom S. Hawkes, son of the previous owner. When Tom S. Hawkes died in the Tokyo earthquake of 1916, Celia Maude Hawkes became the listed owner of the property and retained possession until at least 1930.

Between 1913 and 1914 the rate books record an increase in the number of rooms in the property from thirteen to sixteen, suggesting remodelling had taken place. By 1950 the building had been divided into apartments and was listed in the 1950 Sands and MacDougall's Directory as 'Llanberris' flats. In the present day the property remains divided into a number of separate apartments.

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### Description

30 Western Beach Road is a rendered brick and stucco double storey substantial residence with notable details. The asymmetrical facade has a high degree of integrity and features two large semi-circular bays and a large slate roof. The bays have large double hung sash windows in the ground floor and smaller double hung casement windows at first floor level. The walls consist of smooth render at ground floor level, and stucco at first. A strong cornice line wraps around the structure. The southern bay windows on the ground floor have unusual timber shading elements. The building is raised up and has a narrow terrace in front of the facade. The gable features imitation timber wall shingles and a half timbered effect. There is quoining to the first floor on both sides of the bays and ends of the house. Tall rendered chimneys with terracotta pots protrude from the hip roof. On the north facade a notable entrance porch with arches, keystones, and simple classical pilasters is attached to the side of the residence and stands on a bluestone base. The original timber fence, now with brick pillars, stands at the front of the site. Tall conifers enhance the appearance of the facade. A fire escape stair is attached to the south facade and is a detail relating to the later use as a flat of the residence. An unusual chimney on the north side of the structure features small Corinthian columns, brackets and rendered detail. It is not known whether any remnants of the stables still remain.

### Significance

30 Western Beach Road has architectural and historic significance at a local level. It is an unusual example of residential architecture with fine details. The appearance now strongly reflects the 1914 alterations of the 1880s building. It retains characteristic siting, form and refined classical details including the entrance porch, mouldings, large gable roof and openings. The front fence is also significant. The building has historic importance having a long association with the Hawkes family, Tom Hawkes Senior being a notable Merchant Banker. This association began with construction in 1888, continued through the remodelling in 1914, until approximately 1930. After 1950 the building became the 'Llanberris' flats.