City of Geelong Urban Conservation Study Locally Significant Sites

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



34 Western Beach Road

History

In 1940 Elsie and Frances Davison, Mercer Street hotel keepers, were the owners of an allotment of land at 34 Western Beach Road. The 1942 Sands and McDougall's Directory lists a house being built at this address. By 1943 the rate books list Frances and Elsie Davison as the owners and occupiers of a brick two storey six room dwelling at this address. Frances Davison continued to reside at 34 Western Beach Road until at least 1968. Subsequently the property passed into the hands of a number of different owners and occupiers.

Description

34 Western Beach Road is a reasonably intact Inter-War building sited on a substantial block of land. The asymmetrical brick facade is an excellent example of the horizontality and structural expression of the 1940s. The main feature of the building is the curved corner element which contrasts to the overall horizontal form of the building and focuses attention on the main entrance which is positioned beneath a cantilevered verandah element. A room cantilevers over the corner at the front of the house. The corrugated iron hip roof is concealed by a parapet and a variety of steel framed windows, including curved vertical ribbon reflective panes in the curved corner, and horizontal panes in the square corner, are positioned on the facade. A small porthole window on the front plane gives the building a nautical feel. The incorporation of a garage at the side of the house is unusual for Inter-War architecture. The front yard features a curved raised grass terrace with a concrete fence. A brick fence with decorative lion sculptures lines the front of the site.