



## 56 Western Beach Road

### History

The 1889 rate books record James Martin, a timber merchant, as the first listed owner and occupier of this dwelling. The residence was described as a seven room brick house with bath, servant's room, pantry, and wooden verandah. By 1911 the property had entered the possession of George Holden M.I.A. Arthur Holden was the property's next register owner who retained possession until 1929. By 1950, 56 Western Beach Road had become the Warrain Guest House. In 1962 the Sands and MacDougall's Directory listed the building as the Warrain Teachers' Hostel. The dwelling continued to function as a hostel until at least 1972.

### Description

56 Western Beach Road is a single storey Late Victorian building with a high degree of integrity retaining Italianate details including bichromatic brickwork featuring banding and quoins. The facade is asymmetrical and features a projecting faceted bay with a segmental hipped roof and double hung sash windows. The bullnose verandah has slender iron Corinthian columns, and fine decorative iron lacework and brackets. The verandah floor has the original tessellated tiles. Other details include decorative timber eaves brackets, corbelled chimneys, a large slate hip roof and a central entrance with narrow sidelights. The windows on the facade are double hung sash openings with sidelights.

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### Significance

56 Western Beach Road has architectural significance at a local level. The building is a representative example of Late Victorian housing, a type which was once common in the Geelong region, and has a high degree of integrity. The building retains its characteristic siting, form and Victorian Italianate details including bichromatic brickwork, fine lacework, and a faceted bay. The building forms part of the residential streetscape.