

PLACE NAME
ADDRESS
AREA

All Saints Peace Memorial Hall
113 115 Noble Street
DATE/PERSON 13.5/RP

LEVEL: B
NEG: 3.6 & 3.7



DATES Construction: c1861
USE Present Use: Public
Original Use: House ("Rosebank")
Alterations?: Doors, windows, major rear addition.

FORM

Detached
Single storey
Double fronted

STYLE

Classical

DESCRIPTION

(I = Intact A = Altered * = significant)

ROOF

I Slate

WALLS

I Bluestone

ROOF FORM

* Chimneys

PORCH

* Form
* Decoration

FENESTRATION

A Doors
A Windows

FINISHES

I Unpainted:
chimneys &
bluestone

A INTERIOR

GARDEN & SETTING

* Plants
* Features
* Outbuildings

OTHER COMMENTS

I Render quoins

CONDITION & INTEGRITY

Condition: Fair
Integrity: Minor Modif.

THREATS

Deterioration

DESCRIPTION

A symmetrical, double-fronted, bluestone, hip-roofed public building, two rooms deep. The masonry is coursed on a rendered plinth with cornice and quoins. Windows have render quoins and sill supported on scroll brackets. Chimneys are symmetrical with fine mouldings in unpainted render and the roof is slate. Windows have been replaced with double hung Edwardian leadlights with a wreath motif. The portico has a parapet with cornice moulding over a band supported by crude Doric pilasters. Round arches spring from voussoir blocks front and sides. There is a wing set back on the right-hand side with twelve-pane double hung windows. The left-hand side also has two symmetrical twelve-pane windows and one central door with an early fanlight. The interior retains some cornices, one chimney-piece and one rose, as well as the plan. Roof plumbing needs repair, the porch is water damaged and needs re-flashing.

HISTORY

On 21 April 1956, the Right Reverend Bishop J. D. McKie, Coadjutor, opened the new Peace Memorial Hall associated with All Saint's Church of England, Newtown. The Hall was, according to an All Saints Centenary publication, an early building converted to new purposes:

"Rosebank", the dwelling, (which) had been skilfully modified to provide the ante rooms and the attractive glass doors...²⁵⁴.

In 1961 a room was added to the hall, G. A. Chomley being the honorary architect²⁵⁵.

A rate book search showed that the former "Rosebank" (not to be confused with "Rosebank" on the Barwon)²⁵⁶ in Noble Street, was constructed for James Scott, timber merchant, at an early date prior to 1861²⁵⁷. In the 1861-62 Newtown rate book Scott's house is described as an eight roomed house with stone walls and a slate roof, NAV 100 pounds²⁵⁸. An even more detailed description appeared in the 1862 rate book in which the building was described as six rooms with hall, kitchen and storeroom, the outbuildings including pantry, laundry, stables, coachhouse and shed. There was a cellar and a tank and garden²⁵⁹. Scott remained there until his death in 1894, when "Rosebank" became the property of his executors²⁶⁰.

An article on Scott Bros, timber merchants appeared in The Book of Geelong compiled by Edward A. Vidler and published in Geelong in 1897. The firm was founded in 1853 by James, John and Donald Scott. John retired in the late 1880s and shortly afterwards died. Donald retired later and died in 1896. The business was then carried on by James who died in 1894, when his eldest son, Glover Scott, bought the business from the executors. In this article James Scott was described as a "well known citizen", for many years

254. All Saints Church, Geelong, Centenary history 1862-1962.

255. Ibid.

256. Allan Willingham, Geelong Regional Commission Study, Sheet 350.

257. Newtown rate book 1861-62 No 467.

258. Ibid.

259. Ibid 1862-63 No 475.

260. Ibid 1897-98 No 725.

Chairman of the Geelong Sea Bathing Company and the Geelong Permanent Building Society. The firm was described as having a

widespread connection, not only in Geelong but throughout the large surrounding district, supplying all kinds of timber and building materials - including brick, lime, Portland cement, plaster, corrugated iron, drain pipes, spouting and the usual ironmongery indispensable in building operations. The firm is prepared to furnish estimates for the erection of all kinds and sizes of buildings²⁶¹.

Sons were born to James Scott and his wife at "Rosebank" in July 1860, August 1862, November 1864 and November 1866²⁶².

James Wighton, solicitor, became the new owner/occupier of the stone house and outbuildings in Noble Street in 1899²⁶³ and remained as owner until 1919 when a new owner, Anthony Devine, corn merchant, was listed²⁶⁴. The firm Devine and O'Halloran, corn merchants, opened in Ryrrie Street in 1889. In August 1891, however, the partnership was dissolved and Devine carried on the business alone²⁶⁵. By the 1930s, when Devine was listed at Barwon Heads, "Rosebank" was occupied by Hugh G. Philip, grazier²⁶⁶.

In the 1950s, when it was decided to convert "Rosebank" into All Saints Memorial Hall, a new foundation stone was laid on 15 October 1955 to commemorate the modification of the building for its new use²⁶⁷.

SIGNIFICANCE

This property has regional historical significance as an example of the early residences built on large allotments in fine rural settings for Newtown's gentry. Known earlier as "Rosebank" and constructed c1861, it has historical associations with James Scott, a well-known Geelong district timber merchant, who lived there from the 1860s until his death, and from the 1950s with Newtown's All Saints Anglican Church when, in 1956, it was converted into All Saints Peace Memorial Hall. It has regional architectural significance as a dignified Classical bluestone building with some interior elements surviving. Important elements include its unpainted masonry, fine masonry mouldings, fanlight and twelve-pane windows.

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261. Edward A. Vidler, The Book of Geelong, Henry Franks & Co., Geelong, 1897, p.47.
 262. Geelong Advertiser, 10 July 1860, 13 August 1862, 8 November 1864, 14 November 1866.
 263. Newtown rate book 1899-1900 No 727.
 264. Ibid 1919-20 No 926.
 265. Geelong Advertiser, 21 March 1889, 10 August 1891.
 266. Newtown rate book 1935 No 1078.
 267. All Saints Church, Geelong , Centenary history.

