

4 - 57 438-450 Geelong Road, pictured in the 1950s in its original state (FFOY)

sentative only of the first Australian initiative on the site, albeit British financed.

House 3-5 Gledhill Street

History

John Firth, a storeman, first occupied this house in 1888, lasting some four years at that address.¹ Subsequently, Henry Morrison (a labourer) and Herbert Marquand (quarryman) were to precede over half a century of occupation by Archibald George (a painter) and his family (Arthur George, boilermaker; Elizabeth, Millicent and Maggie).²

During the early house history, it was owned by Thomas Dyson (bootmaker), later Cotterall & Shallard, a Footscray firm, and, in the late 1890s, the Modern Permanent Building Society.³ The building society also

owned 7 Gledhill Street which survives⁴ as does 9 Gledhill; most of the houses in the street being leased.⁵

The architectural firm, Craven Brown & Marquand, were active around Yarraville in the 1890s, designing Yarraville Hall in 1891.⁶ There may be a connection.

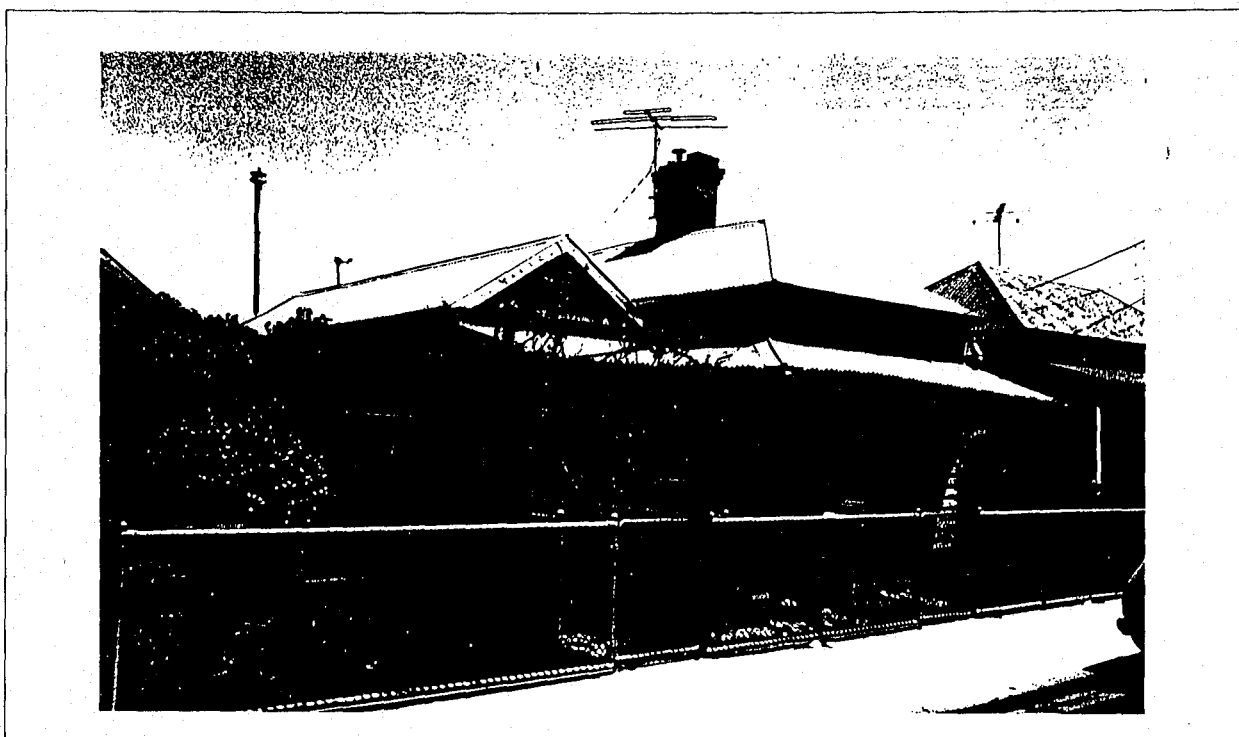
Description

One of the many simple Italianate styled timber cottages which line the streets of western suburbs like Kensington, Yarraville and Footscray, this example is distinguished by its larger than normal site, collection of associated outbuildings and the relatively original condition of the complex. The verandah retains its cast-iron and timber details and paint remnants display early colours.

External Integrity

Fence and a verandah post have been replaced. Notched boards on the facade indicate possible

- 1 RB1888,p.80; RB1889,3793
- 2 ER1908; D1890-1950
- 3 RB1801,3959; RB1894,4157; RB1899,4044
- 4 RB1896, 4169
- 5 loc.cit.
- 6 ABCN 7/2/91/88



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renovation early this century, possibly co-inciding with the erection of the gabled wing on the east.

Streetscape

A narrow street, lined with double-fronted villas similar to this one, most altered in detail. Nearby is the stone 2 Gledhill Street, presumably indicating the start of the street's development.

Significance

Architecturally, both representative of a common type and distinguished amongst that type by its associated outbuildings. Historically, briefly linked with the Marquand family who were both quarrymen and apparently architects also by its form perhaps suggestive of tradesmen's home and workshop (?).

Powder Magazine

1 Gordon Street

(Note: magazine in the *City of Sunshine* but part of munitions complex in Footscray)

History(Abstract of J.W. Moore, 'The Saltwater River Powder Magazine,' Ammunition Factory Footscray, 1969).

Powder magazines controlled by the Mines Department are far more numerous and ancient than those surviving from a military background, because of the 1850s gold rush and the relatively late material preoccupation with the Colony's defence. Principal magazines holding powder for military use were at Footscray (corner Lyons and Moreland Streets, footings still visible), Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo and Eaglehawk, also in a former prison hulk afloat on Port Phillip Bay.

A board of inquiry, under Col. E.W. Ward, considered the proper location of magazines in 1872 and the recommendation was for an arsenal and magazine to be sited at Sunbury. A Footscray committee member, W.M. Fehon¹ (representing the Victorian Railways), disagreed, suggesting instead a relatively inaccessible and uninhabited site opposite Flemington racecourse which was set conveniently between two hills able to act as blast mounds. Blair's former farm² was purchased for £5000 and contracts let, in 1875, to principal contractor, George Cornwall (Williamstown). Numerous

1 refer ADB entry
2 FFOY,p.22