

**HOUSE
101-103 QUEEN STREET**

SURVEY DATE: 1991-2

STUDY GRADING: B

CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1899

FIRST OWNER : RIPPER, JAMES (C1899-1914)



CITATION:

History

A pair of row houses were built for a piano tuner, James Ripper, on part of Crown Allotment 8 in 1899.¹ Ripper did not occupy either house, but rented them instead. James Ripper's talents extended to the bassoon, as well as

1 DRP1513; RB1899-1900, 2748, 2749

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the fine arts. He did the lithographic work for 'Zoology of Victoria' (government publication). He was thought to be one of the most gifted of Bendigo's Cornish-born residents.¹

Over the years 101 Queen Street had many occupants. They included a minister, Christopher Stark (1900), a clerk, Edgar H. Collett (1904), an engineer, Frederick Upton (1909), a gentleman, James H. Pearson (1914), and Edwin J. Semmens (1920).² By 1925 Ripper had died and the property was part of his estate.³ John Skewes occupied the property for much of the 1920s and early 1930s.⁴ Long-term resident, Malcolm J. Brown, occupied the property from 1935 until after 1950.⁵

Samuel E. Dalton, a law clerk with Tatchell, Dunlop, Smalley and Balmer, and also Ripper's agent, occupied 103 Queen Street from the early 1900s until after 1920.⁶ From the late 1930s until after 1950, Gerasimos Lucas was in residence.

Tenders called during this era (1899) included William Beebe for a terrace in Queen Street.⁸

Description

Distinctively planned and detailed, this row house pair is highly representative of Bendigo architecture in that period, but is not so of the rest of the State. Built in two brick colours (red body brick, cream trim), the use of terra-cotta ornament extends across much of the building with an herringbone pattern set as panels in the eaves entablature and chimneys with corbelled tops, as either a single or combined shaft. However, it is the angled roof gable orientation which is unusual, set as it is on a standard hipped main roof with ornamental panelled friezes, set above the main ric-rac frieze at the corners, the convex profile verandah reflects this angled orientation in a distinctive manner. The same angled configuration was used by William Beebe in an 1890s renovation at 152-4 Barnard Street (q.v.).

Originally, small side verandahs separated the protruding front gabled bay from a rear room on each house. Circular windows were also used in the side elevation.

External Integrity

The front fence (picket) has been replaced in an unrelated manner and side verandahs filled in. New (large) windows have been added to 101, but this could be restored using 103 as a guide.

Context

The pair is isolated on this side of the streetscape.

Landscape

The garden has been considerably altered with a recent driveway along the side of the house. The extant garden consists of a number of smaller shrubs which are sympathetic but unlikely to be part of the original planting. The garden is of contributory significance.

Significance

Architecturally, the pair is unusual in a State-wide context, given its angled orientation and terra-cotta ornament and is probably the work of, or highly influenced by, the notable William Beebe. It is distinctively a Bendigo design, although altered in detail.

1 Hopkins, p.92
2 RB1900-1, 2755; RB1904-5, 2752; RB1909-10, 2769; RB1914-15, 2743; D1920
3 DRP1513
4 D1925; D1930
5 D1935; D1950
6 RB1904-5, 2751; D1920; DRP1513
7 D1940; D1950
8 MUA for carriage builders, Scholten & Marsh