



4 - 44 10 Geelong Road

External Integrity

Verandah floor rebuilt, fence replaced and adjoining tennis court built on (6 Geelong Rd.).

Streetscape

Among and stylistically related to other houses built for Footscray's elite in this part of Geelong Road and linked historically, by its first owner, to the adjoining 10 Geelong Road.

Significance

Architecturally, an adept design in the Queen Anne villa manner but more important, historically, because of its association with one of Footscray's more famous commercial figures, particularly in his industrial relations role when Footscray led the State in obtaining uniformly more adequate working conditions. Also it is set among other houses built by leaders in other fields, both within Footscray and the State.

**Trenague House
10 Geelong Road**

History(Refer Hooper's Buildings, Barkly Street, for Hooper history).

Prominent Footscray draper, J.H. Hooper, commissioned architect T.F.M. Smith to design this conservatively designed house prior to calling tenders in 1901. Hooper resided there into the 1930s, giving way to a long occupation by Charles Archibald Hoadley (1940s) and John Morgan (1930s). John Mitchell and K. W. Drever were later residents.¹

Among the prosperous and famous individuals residing there, Charles Hoadley was at once an Antarctic explorer (geologist on Mawson's first Australian expedition 1911-13) and the first principal of Footscray Technical School (later College, later Institute), in 1916, and remained so until his death in 1947. During his time as principal, the school enrollment grew from 150 to 4000 when Footscray was the largest government

1 D1950-5

diploma school.¹ Hoadley was awarded the order Commander of the British Empire in 1936 but is best known as Scoutmaster to the First Footscray Group and Chief Scout Commissioner of Victoria (1927-37), his name being still current in the Hoadley Hide camp at Gilwell.²

Another unusual aspect of Hoadley's life was as son to the founder of Hoadley's Chocolates Ltd., the producers of the famous 'Violet Crumble Bar' named by Hoadley's mother after her favourite flower³

Description

A large but typically styled brick Italianate suburban villa with a return convex-roof verandah and asymmetrical bayed plan. The roof is of patterned slate and the verandah construction is now timber but is likely to have been cast-iron. Other details include the window architraves, a niche, deep eaves brackets, encaustic tiles and bracketed chimney cornices. Extensive additions and alterations have been made to the site.

External Integrity

The verandah has been rebuilt, the bricks painted, fence replaced and openings altered. Large concrete paved areas in front of the house are intrusive.

Streetscape

One of a series of large houses symbolizing the residential elite of Footscray in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, prior to the mounting blight to the amenity of Geelong Road caused by motor traffic.

Significance

Architecturally, a typical large conservatively designed suburban villa type with altered details. Historically, the home of prominent persons, particularly Hoadley who was known nationally and Hooper whose business once reached most parts of Victoria and whose name is foremost among Footscray's 19th and early 20th century commercial figures.

House 38 Geelong Road

History

John Schutt began a prosperous career as a Spotswood dairy farmer looking for cheaper stock fodder. In 1913 he started a chaff cutting and oats crushing mill at the corner of Geelong and Williamstown Roads (now a service station). His partnership with C.E. Barrie (1916) preceded a move in the following year to a bigger and better disused quarry site at the opposite Geelong and Sunshine Roads corner, close to the West Footscray Railway Station goods yard. Schutt & Barrie, among other things, introduced green binding twine ('Green String Band') as well as winning recognition at Royal Agricultural Society shows and the British Empire Wembley Exhibitions of 1924, 1925, for the excellence of their bagged chaff. Challenge Brand Flour replaced horse feed as their staple product (given the decline in horse-power), after wheat gristing started in 1927. Wheat germ and semolina were valuable by-products.

John Schutt built this house in 1937, having lived previously at 377 Nicholson Street (demolished?). His architects were Cedric Ballantyne and Snedden.⁴ Schutt died here in 1954 and was succeeded in business by his son, Ralph who, in public life, succeeded another Footscray notary and Geelong Road dweller, Charles Hoadley, as a prominent leader in the Boy Scout movement. Schutt senior had also served as a Footscray Councillor (1925-8), as did his partner's son, T.L. Barrie, but in Melton.⁵

F. N. Mann was another more recent long-term resident. He was connected with Swing Bridge Motors and co-founded Delphic Taxis⁶.

Description

Footscray's largest house in the Modern/Moderne manner, it is set in ample grounds, still possessing its landscaping (including a large camphor laurel) and decorative iron and brick front fence. It has a hipped roof, with Marseilles pattern tiles, in much the same form as previous styles. However the corner windows, horizontal steel-framed glazing and cemented window

1 V&R, V1, p.666; FFOY
2 WWA1944, p.433
3 Lack, Hoadley entry *ADB*, Vol. 9, p.312
4 M.M.B.W. CF 62288.
5 FFOY; D1935-55.
6 R Cocks; D1970