
Former Luke Kinsella House, 4 Seaby Street, STAWELL



SL 293 - House, Former Luke Kinsella House, 4 Seaby Street, STAWELL



SL 293a - Stawell Historical Society Collection.

Location

4 Seaby Street STAWELL, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 27, 2004

The site at 4 Seaby Street is visually connected to other significant, single storey, Victorian styled houses in the streetscape of Seaby Street between the railway line and Johnson Street. This house was constructed in 1869 for Luke Kinsella, hotel keeper and mine owner of Pleasant Creek, to a design by Robert Alexander Love. Although there have been some alterations to the verandah, the exterior of the building appears to be largely intact.

The house at 4 Seaby Street is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates original design qualities of a Victorian style. These qualities include the simple gable roof form, together with a skillion verandah that projects towards the street frontage. Other intact qualities include the tongued and grooved vertical wall

construction at the front, moulded edged horizontal weatherboard wall construction at the sides, two rendered brick chimneys with projecting cornices, narrow eaves, ornamental timber fascias, central timber framed doorway with four panelled timber door and side and high lights, timber framed double hung windows with moulded timber architraves that extend to the timber verandah floor, and the shallow-arched timber lattice valances.

The house at 4 Seaby Street is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with residential developments in Stawell during the height of the gold rush in the late 1860s. In particular, this house has associations with Luke and Mary Kinsella, original owners who instigated construction in 1869. Luke Kinsella was the hotel keeper of the Star Hotel between 1862 and 1869, as well as being a successful businessmen with mining interests and was a respected member of the community. The house probably also has associations with Robert Alexander Love, prominent architect of Bendigo and temporarily of Pleasant Creek (Stawell). The house at 4 Seaby Street is scientifically significant at a LOCAL level. The tongued and grooved vertical board wall construction represents an unusual form of cladding, suggestive of a North American influence.

Overall, the house at 4 Seaby Street is of **LOCAL** significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004;

Hermes Number 112692

Property Number

Physical Description 1

The site at 4 Seaby Street is visually connected to other significant, single storey, predominantly Victorian styled houses in the streetscape of Seaby Street between the railway line and Johnson Street. It is also visually connected to the significant urban foci of St. Matthew's Uniting Church spire to the north-east.

This house is generally in accord with the form, scale, style and setbacks of the significant houses visually connected to it. The front yard consists of a central concrete pedestrian path flanked by grassed areas and sizeable shrubs and trees.

The single storey, Victorian styled house is characterised by a simple gable roof form, together with a skillion verandah that projects towards the street frontage. These roof forms are clad in recent corrugated zincalume. Two symmetrically located rendered brick chimneys with projecting cornices adorn the roofline. Narrow overhangs and an ornamental timber fascia are features of the front eave.

The symmetrical nature of the design is highlighted by the central early timber framed doorway, with four panelled timber door and side and high lights. The doorway is flanked by early timber framed double hung windows with moulded timber architraves that extend to the timber verandah floor.

The side walls of the house are constructed of moulded edged horizontal weatherboards however the front wall is identified by the tongued and grooved vertical boards. Mike Butcher in Robert Alexander Love Goldfields Architect 1814-1876 claims that "The use of vertical boards under the verandah is suggestive of a North American influence, though here they are lighter tongued and grooved boards than the heavier boards with a covering batten used in America."

A feature of the design is the front verandah. It is supported by recent square timber columns, which have replaced original, decorative timber columns with Ionic capitals that were a trademark of the work of the architect, Robert Love. The verandah is also adorned with an early ornamental fascia (also typical of Love's work) and shallow-arched timber lattice valances.

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>