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# Former Crothers House, 9 Seaby Street, STAWELL

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## Location

9 Seaby Street STAWELL, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 27, 2004

The house at 9 Seaby Street, Stawell, makes a significant contribution to the predominantly single storey, Victorian styled streetscape of Seaby Street between the railway line and Johnson Street. This house was built in 1869 for William Crothers, merchant and mine owner originally New Brunswick, to a design by the architect, Robert Alexander Love. Although there have been some changes to the house, the general form and features of the design are largely intact.

The house at 9 Seaby Street is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates original and early design qualities of a Victorian style. These qualities include the shallow pitched hipped roof form, single storey height, unpainted brick wall construction, painted and lapped galvanised corrugated iron roof cladding and the four rendered brick chimneys with projecting cornices. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the front and side bullnosed verandahs, narrow eaves, four panelled timber door (with sidelights), timber framed double hung windows, solid brick verandah walls that extend into ornate pointed parapets, projecting bay window at the rear, and the front side turned timber verandah columns. The ornamental cast iron gate piers and palisade fence contribute to the significance of the place. The mature palms and Italian cypress tree also contribute to the significance of the place.

The house at 9 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 William Crothers, a North American who had emigrated to Victoria in 1854 with his brothers David and Hugh, and with his father established a thriving bakery and in 1865 a Cash Store. Also a successful mine owner, William Crothers instigated construction of this house in 1869 after engaging the architect, Robert Alexander Love of Bendigo and temporarily of Pleasant Creek.

Overall, the house at 9 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;
Other Names	Crothers House,
Hermes Number	112694
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The site at 9 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 is characterised by a centrally located and introduced timber pergola covered in creeper, bird bath, grassed areas and substantial perimeter gardens of shrubs and other plantings including palm trees and an Italian cypress tree. The front is bound by a cast iron palisade fence with ornamental cast iron piers, the whole being approximately 1500 mm high.

The asymmetrical, single storey, unpainted brick, Victorian styled house is characterised by a shallow pitched hipped roof form, together with a rear hipped roof form and front and side bullnosed verandahs. These roof forms are clad in painted and lapped galvanised corrugated iron. Four early rendered brick chimneys with projecting cornices adorn the roofline. Narrow overhangs are a feature of the eaves.

The front of the house is largely symmetrically composed, with an early four panelled timber door (with sidelights) being flanked by a two timber framed double hung windows. The verandah has solid brick side walls that extend into ornate pointed parapets. Both the early front and later side verandahs are supported by introduced but appropriate turned timber columns, and have introduced lattice valances.

At the rear of the house is a projecting bay window.

*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/>*