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# House - Formerly known as 'Walmsley', 26 Seaby Street, STAWELL



SL 309 - House, Former 'Walmsley', 26 Seaby Street, STAWELL



SL 309a - Stawell Historical Society Collection.

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## Location

26 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 26 Seaby Street, Stawell, makes a significant contribution to the predominantly single storey, Victorian styled streetscape of Seaby Street. This house is largely intact on the exterior, and was built in 1907 for the local brickmaker and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. George Barnes. The house is one of the earliest in Stawell constructed by machine-made bricks.

The house at 26 Seaby Street is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates original design qualities of a Federation style. These qualities include the gable roof form that traverses the site, together with the minor gable and broken back skillion verandah that project towards the street frontage. Other intact or

appropriate qualities include the machine-made brick wall construction, slate roof cladding, single storey height, asymmetrical composition, three unpainted brick chimneys with multi-corbelled cornices, broad eaves, are a feature of the eaves, timber framed double hung windows, timber doorway, turned timber verandah columns and arched timber fretwork valances, flying gable and decorative bargeboards, oculus ventilator in the gable end, masonry window lintels and sills and the terra cotta ridge ornamentation. The front garden and trees also contribute to the significance of the place.

The house at 26 Seaby Street is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with residential developments in Stawell during the Federation (c.1895-1915) period. In particular, this house has associations with George Barnes and his wife, who instigated construction in 1907. George Barnes was a successful fruit grower, pioneering the export fruit trade to England in the second half of the 19th century, as well as pioneering machine-made bricks from 1906 as part of the Stawell Pressed Brick Company. Barnes also served the community for many years as a Councillor, with a period as Mayor in 1910-11. The house at 26-28 Seaby Street is scientifically significant at a LOCAL level. The house is constructed of some of the earliest machine-made bricks in Stawell, representing a new technological development for the period.

Overall, the house at 26 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	Walmsley,
Hermes Number	112729
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The house at 26 Seaby Street, Stawell, is visually connected to other significant, single storey, 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, Grampians ranges to the south-west, and the chimney stack to the north.

This house is generally in accord with the form, scale and setbacks of the significant houses visually connected to it. The front yard consists of a grassed area with perimeter gardens and is punctuated by a paved path. There is also a mature Italian cypress at the side and other trees. The front is bound by an introduced palisade fence.

The single storey, asymmetrical, Federation styled house is characterised by a gable roof form that traverses the site, together with a minor gable and broken back skillion verandah that project towards the street frontage. These roof forms are clad in slate. Three unpainted brick chimneys with multi-corbelled cornices adorn the roofline. Broad overhangs are a feature of the eaves.

The timber framed double hung windows, arranged singularly but closely spaced, and the timber doorway are other early features of the design.

A distinctive feature of the house is the front verandah, with its turned timber verandah columns and arched timber fretwork valances. The steel verandah balustrade appears to have been introduced.

Other early or appropriate decorative features of the design include the flying gable and decorative bargeboards, oculus ventilator in the gable end, masonry window lintels and sills and the terra cotta ridge ornamentation.

*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/>*