

## Clutha Cottage, 20 Mercer Street, Queenscliff



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A ten-pane single sash window which disappears into the wall above when opened.



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### Location

20 Mercer Street QUEENSCLIFF, QUEENSCLIFFE BOROUGH

### Municipality

## Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO46

HO11

## Heritage Listing

Queenscliffe Borough

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - November 1, 2009

Statement of Significance as recorded under the Queenscliff Heritage Study 2009

*Clutha Cottage* is of historical and aesthetic (architectural) significance to the Borough of Queenscliffe as an early and substantially intact example of a weatherboard cottage of the 1850s-60s, in the Domestic Gothic/Tudor Revival style. It relates to the earliest phase of development in Queenscliff and was built and occupied by William Pagan, a builder who played a prominent role in the administration of the Borough during its formative years. It is also significant as a rare surviving component of a group of similar buildings in the immediate vicinity associated with the pilots' service and other distinguished townspeople.

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Queenscliffe - Queenscliffe Urban Conservation Study, Allom Lovell & Associates P/L, Architects, 1982; Queenscliffe - Queenscliffe Heritage Study, Lovell Chen, 2009; |
| Construction dates        | 1855,   |
| Hermes Number             | 120728  |
| Property Number           |   |

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## Physical Description 1

Clutha is built on an asymmetrical plan with intersecting gable roofs to each bay.

Scrolled valences decorate each of these gables and a bayed window was placed on the south-eastern bay. Typically, Clutha is set on rubble limestone foundations which support perimeter bearers. A detail which underscores the fact that it was constructed by its owner is the unusual use of double-hung sashes which slide vertically into a timber cavity wall.

Extract from the 2009 study

*Clutha Cottage* is a weatherboard-clad house built in a Domestic Gothic or Tudor Revival style, on an asymmetrical plan with steeply pitched intersecting gable roofs to each bay. Scrolled valences and a finial decorate each of the gables and a bay window is located on the south-eastern gable. The property is set on rubble limestone foundations. An unusual detail is the use of double-hung sash windows which slide vertically into a timber cavity wall, probably indicative of its owner-built origins.

The original slate roof on *Clutha Cottage* was replaced by corrugated iron for much of the twentieth century and has been reinstated since the 1984 study. The original concave verandah roof has also been replaced by a straight pitch, probably after 1900. The external adjustable shutters on the north face, which had previously been removed, have now been reinstated. It is also possible that the roof to the window bay has been replaced.

## **Physical Description 2**

The slate roof on Clutha appears to have been originally shingled. This is now covered by corrugated iron. The former concave roof verandah has been replaced by a straight pitch, probably after 1900, and the external adjustable shutters on the north face have been removed. It is also possible that the roof to the window bay has been replaced, being originally similar to Rosenfeld.

## **Physical Description 3**

Built in a 'domestic gothic' or a Tudor based style, Clutha is unusual owing to construction material, and its age and the cavity-sash windows. Most surviving houses of this style are of masonry; timber examples being rare, especially of this age. (See also Sea View House, 13-15 Stephens Street). Clutha's association with William Pagan is important to Queenscliff.

## **Intactness**

GOOD

*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/>*