
House, 43 Aitken Street



43 Aitken Street
WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons
Bay Heritage Study 2006



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Location

43 Aitken Street WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons Bay City

Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO36

Heritage Listing

Hobsons Bay City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The house, constructed prior to 1857, at 43 Aitken Street, Williamstown.

How is it Significant?

The house at 43 Aitken Street, Williamstown is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the City of Hobsons Bay.

Why is it Significant?

Historically, it is significant as perhaps the earliest surviving building in Williamstown and possibly the earliest surviving timber house in the metropolitan area. It is therefore highly important in illustrating the early development of Williamstown, particularly the early role of minor streets for residential use connected with an adjacent commercial centre. (AHC criteria A4 and D2)

Aesthetically, it is significant as an unusual early and almost complete building form, clad with an early and relatively rare material type (wide boards) and among the earliest surviving timber buildings in the State. (AHC criteria B2, E1 and F1)

Heritage Study/Consultant Hobsons Bay - Hobsons Bay Heritage Study, Hobsons Bay City Council, 2006;

Hermes Number 14963

Property Number

Physical Description 1

The Clara Pope house is a four room, high and simply hipped roof double-fronted cottage clad with horizontal, wide beaded-edge softwood boarding fixed to a sawn timber frame. Corrugated iron now covers the shingling to the roof but the ogee-profile rain water gutters are as original. Internally, all walls and ceilings are tongue and grooved, beaded-edge softwood lining; the external wall lining being set to a splay which follows the underside of the roof frame above the wall plate. The one unusually located brick chimney is central, possessing a typical string-course cornice.

A similarly shaped building was owned by Thomas Smith at Tarraville in the 1850s and Judge Fellow's Bungalow Cottage in Mercer Street Queenscliff, in 1859-60; the latter was pre-fabricated by Manning of Britain.[1]

[1] Butler (1982:87f), Allom Lovell & Associates (1982) *Queenscliffe Urban Conservation Study* Building 71

Integrity

External Integrity and condition

Integrity - High - The house appears to be generally original except for the removal of a verandah from the Aitken Street elevation.

Condition - Poor.

Physical Description 2

An isolated early building in a non-contributory setting.

Historical Australian Themes

Making Suburbs

Physical Description 3

Associations

J. Cain, Mrs Clara Pope, James Backus, Thomas Collins & William Wallace

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/>