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## House and Black Achan (Pippin) Pear Tree



House at 64 Electra Street  
WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons  
Bay Heritage Study 2006



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### Location

64 Electra Street WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons Bay City

### Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

### Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO102

### Heritage Listing

Hobsons Bay City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The house, constructed c.1858 and the Black Achan (Pippin) Pear at 64 Electra Street, Williamstown.

How is it Significant?

The house and Black Achan Pear at 64 Electra Street, Williamstown are of local historic, aesthetic and scientific (horticultural) significance to the City of Hobsons Bay.

Why is it Significant?

Historically, it is significant as one of the oldest houses in Williamstown and is now among the earliest timber houses in Melbourne. It is also notable for its strong association with Williamstown's maritime past by its ownership by successive ship's masters and pilots including an early member of the first three groups of bay pilots in Victoria. The age of the house is indicated by the Black Achan Pear in the rear yard, now thought to be over 100 years old. (AHC criteria A4 and G1)

Aesthetically, it is significant as an altered but distinguishably early house type, which contributes to the historic residential character of Electra Street. (AHC criteria E1 and F1)

Scientifically, the Black Achan Pear is significant as a rare mature example of this species in a private garden. (AHC Criterion B2)

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

Hermes Number 15032

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

The house at 64 Electra Street, Williamstown is a double fronted, slated transverse gable roofed timber villa with a concave roof timber verandah. One, corniced and stuccoed, asymmetrically placed chimney protrudes from the roof and presumably was once matched at the other end. A roundhead picket fence is sympathetic, if not the original fence modified.

Changes to the original fabric include alterations to the windows, replacement of the front door replaced, and the verandah, which may have had a timber valence.

The property contains an established garden at the rear which includes a notable example of a Black Achan Pear (*Pyrus Communis*). It is a tall specimen, being 13.5m in height and 2.36m circumference and is possibly more than 100 years old. This species is rare in cultivation in Victoria.

## Integrity

External Integrity and condition

*Integrity* - Moderate. *Condition* - Good.

## Physical Description 2

Context

Contributes to a group of early houses in Electra Street that share similar siting, period detail, materials and roof form.

## Historical Australian Themes

Making suburbs

### **Physical Description 3**

#### *Associations*

Thomas Robertson, Cpt. Albert Thrussell, Cpt. George Richardson

*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/>*