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## Shop (Former) and Residence



House at 55 John Street  
WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons  
Bay Heritage Study 2006



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### Location

55 John Street WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons Bay City

### Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

### Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO159

### Heritage Listing

Hobsons Bay City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The former shop and residence, constructed c.1871 with later additions, at 55 John Street, Williamstown.

How is it Significant?

The former shop and residence at 55 John Street, Williamstown is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the City of Hobsons Bay.

#### Why is it Significant?

Historically, it is significant as an increasingly rare example of a weatherboard corner shop, which illustrates how self-contained communities developed in the era prior to motorized transport. The location of the shop opposite an early church provided an important local community focal point in the nineteenth century. (AHC criteria A4 and D2)

Aesthetically, it is a rare example of an early single storey corner timber shop, which retains unusual detail such as the small windows. It contributes to the historic character of John Street. (AHC criteria B2 and E1)

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

Hermes Number 15091

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

A registration assessment report prepared for Heritage Victoria describes the former shop and residence at 55 John Street as follows:

*Built on bluestone foundations, 55 John Street is a single storey weatherboard structure comprising 5 rooms constructed on the northern and western boundary of the site. Two half width double paneled doors are located on the splayed entrance opening directly onto the street corner and appear original. There is a 'M' shaped hipped roof with central valleys. Cropped verandahs are located above the western windows, the northern windows and the corner doorway, although there is evidence that there was once a more substantial verandah extending across the northern and western elevations. A skillion roofed structure is located on the eastern side of the building. Unusual for an early to mid Victorian shop the windows are the typical double hung sash types with the 2:1 proportions and not the large single or multi-paned openings of other commercial premises.*

The c.1905 MMBW Detail Plan No. 57 indicates that the building once had verandahs to both elevations.

## Integrity

External Integrity and condition

*Integrity - High. Condition - Fair.*

## Physical Description 2

ContextAn isolated example of an interwar dwelling amongst earlier residential development, predominantly from the Victorian period.

## Historical Australian Themes

Making Suburbs

*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/>*