
Clontarn (former South Star Mine managers house)



122 Albert Street Sebastopol



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Location

122 Albert Street, SEBASTOPOL VIC 3356 - Property No 2000500

Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO199

Heritage Listing

Ballarat City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - March 5, 2024

What is significant?

The former South Star Mine Manager's residence, located at 122 Albert Street Sebastopol, built in two distinct stages in the nineteenth century.

The first stage of the single storey house, dating to c1880s, has an M-hip roof and weatherboard cladding. The most distinguishing features that survive from the original house are two tall, finely detailed chimneys. They have stop-chamfered shafts and are bracketed by a band of cream bricks at the base and to the cornice.

The later, front section, dating to c1890s, is L-shaped in plan, comprising a hipped roof and projecting gabled bay. The facade is clad in ashlar-look boards, with weatherboards to the sides. The bargeboard to the gable has delicate pierced semicircles at its base, and a turned finial at the apex. The window to this section is a double-hung sash with wide sidelights, resting on curved brackets and set beneath a decorative entablature with dentils and scrollwork. The recessed part of the facade has a bullnose verandah, supported on cast-iron fluted Corinthian columns.

How is it significant?

The former South Star Mine Manager's residence is of historic and architectural significance to the City of Ballarat.

Why is it significant?

The former South Star Mine Manager's residence is of historic significance as a rare surviving example of a mine manager's residence in Sebastopol. The only other intact example known to survive is at 362 Albert Street. The building is situated opposite the former South Star No. 1 Gold Mine site and its surviving timber office at 113 Albert Street, providing an important historical context. (Criterion A)

The former South Star Mine Manager's residence is of architectural significance as an unusually intact example of a Victorian dwelling constructed in two stages illustrating the rising fortunes of the South Star Mine and its employees. While houses are most often extended to the rear, here a much grander facade was created in the 1890s, eclipsing the simple 1880s section at the rear. Of particular architectural interest are the finely detailed bichrome brick chimneys on the earlier section and the similar red brick chimney on the later section. The extensive decorative detailing of the later (front) section of the building appears to be entirely intact, including the decorative timber detailing on the bargeboards, the timber finial, Corinthian cast-iron verandah columns, the somewhat unusually arrangements of the verandah, and the timber surrounds all the windows. (Criterion E)

Theme

4. Transforming and managing the land 8. Building community life

Heritage Study/Consultant Ballarat - Sebastopol Heritage Study (Stage 2), Context Pty Ltd, 2015;

Hermes Number 183805

Property Number

Physical Description 1

The house at 122 Albert Street was built in two distinct stages, with the current facade being the later section. The change in scale and level of detail between these two sections indicates an increase in the wealth of the owner over this time.

It appears that the original house had an M-hip roof, clad in corrugated iron, with weatherboard walls. Windows were both one-over-one double-hung sashes, with a six-over-six window at the rear of the south side elevation. The most distinguishing features that survive from the original house are two tall, finely detailed chimneys. They have stop-chamfered shafts and are bracketed by a band of cream bricks at the base and to the cornice. At the very rear of the house are two successive lean-to additions.

The later, front section is L-shaped in plan, comprising a hipped roof and projecting gabled bay. The eaves of this section are higher, and the roof has a steeper pitch, making it about a metre taller than the earlier section. The roof is also clad in corrugated iron, with the bases of metal finials remaining at the peaks of the hips. This section has a single chimney which copies the details of the earlier two chimneys, but is executed solely in red brick, without the cream bands, as bichrome brickwork had gone out of fashion by the time it was built.

The facade is clad in mock-ashlar boards, with weatherboards to the side elevations. The facade and sides have a cornice of paired brackets with turned drops on either side of a patera, and cricket bat moulds between the pairs. The gable-fronted bay has an open-bed pediment, so the cornice breaks where the entablature is open. The bargeboard to the gable has delicate pierced semicircles at its base, and a turned finial at the apex. The window to this section is a double-hung sash with wide sidelights, resting on curved brackets and set beneath a decorative entablature with dentils and scrollwork.

The recessed part of the facade has a bullnose verandah, supported on cast-iron fluted Corinthian columns (which are also evident at 362 Albert Street). The section of the verandah over the entry is unusual in form: it projects out further and is taller with a flat roof. This detail appears to be original, as the dentils continue around both sides of this part of the roof, the two columns supporting its outer edge are identical to those beneath the bullnose roof, and the basalt floor edging and slab flooring also extend outward at this point.

The pair of windows beneath the verandah have the same detailing as those on the projecting bay. The doorway is slightly recessed, and is bracketed by four slender colonettes. They support a heavy entablature above which is a highlight. The door is six-panelled. On either side is a highlight above a panel of diagonal lining boards.

The house is highly intact. The only alterations observed are the removal of the cast-iron verandah frieze and brackets and one Corinthian verandah column which stood against the wall, and the successive rear lean-to additions.

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/>