
HOUSE



4 Hertford Street Sebastopol



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Location

4 HERTFORD STREET, SEBASTOPOL - PROPERTY NUMBER 2014814, BALLARAT CITY

Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO214

Heritage Listing

Ballarat City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - March 10, 2024

What is significant?

The timber house at 4 Hertford Street, Sebastopol, constructed in two stages in the 1860s and 1880s. The 1860s section comprises the left two-thirds of the house and is clad in weatherboard. The front elevation has a gabled bay to the left of the facade and a central hipped-roof section with a verandah. The verandah has a bullnosed roof which is likely to date to the 1880s. The 1880s section is highly decorative and comprises a wide bay at the right of the facade, with a M-hip roof and mock-ashlar cladding to the facade of the bay. A porch projects from this hipped-roof bay, covering the entrance. Two polychrome brick chimneys remain in the 1880s section of the house.

How is it significant?

The timber house at 4 Hertford Street, Sebastopol, is of historic and architectural significance to the City of Ballarat.

Why is it significant?

The timber house is of historical significance for its association with the provision of Miner's Rights administered under the various *Goldfield Acts* of the mid-nineteenth century, which entitled the holder to a residential claim of up to one quarter of an acre on Crown land, for the construction of a dwelling. The house at 4 Hertford Street was held under a Miner's Right until 1984, before the freehold was purchased from the Crown. (Criterion A)

The timber house is of architectural significance as a surviving example of a dwelling constructed during two distinct periods, the 1860s and 1880s. The 1880s section is distinguished by fine details such as mock-ashlar timber cladding, decorative hoods over windows and the front door with paneled reveal and coloured glass sidelights. The 1880s section is of further architectural interest as one of only few surviving examples of "Blewett Homes" a highly localised 'kit home' designed and built by local timber merchant and builder, E. Blewett. (Criteria A & D)

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

Construction dates 1860,

Hermes Number 183815

Property Number

Physical Description 1

The timber house at 4 Hertford Street was built in two distinct phases, both of which are clearly expressed on the facade. The house has a small setback from the street, and is partially concealed by a high and unsympathetic solid timber fence.

The first section, of the 1860s, comprises the left-hand two thirds of the house, and is clad in weatherboards. At the end is a gable-fronted bay that projects out from the centre, hipped-roof section which has a front verandah. The gable has a very simple bargeboard and plain double-hung sash window. Another one is located beneath the verandah. Seams in the weatherboards beneath the verandah indicate that the original front door was located next to the projecting bay. The verandah roof has a bullnosed roof, with early corrugated iron. As this style was not common until the late 1880s and 1890s, it appears to date from the enlargement of the house at this time.

The roof to the 1860s part of the house has been recently reclad in corrugated metal. This part of the building has no surviving chimneys. The verandah to this section has modern square posts (the cast-iron frieze plus brackets may date to the 1880s works).

The second section, of the 1880s, comprises a wide projecting bay at the right-hand side of the facade with a metal-clad M-hip roof. In comparison to the very plain and simple 1860s section, this phase is highly decorative with extensive and very high-quality detailing.

The facade of the bay is clad with ashlar-look boards, with an unusually complex cornice above. The cornice comprises pairs of brackets with turned drops surrounded by three patarae. Between each group of brackets and patarae are cricket bats moulds with curved ends echoing the adjacent patarae. The 1880s front entry is located on the left-hand side of this bay. It is slightly recessed with a three-panel reveal on either side. The four-paneled door has heavy mouldings including cricket bats. The door retains coloured glass sidelights and a highlight. Below the sidelights are diagonal lining board panels. Beside the door is a double-hung window with sidelights

set beneath a dentilated hood with decorative scrolled frieze at the bottom.

There is a small verandah sheltering the doorway, which appears to be an alteration of c1920s. It has a flat roof with exposed rafter ends. The posts are plain with moulded capitals (which may have been salvaged from elsewhere on the house). Cast-iron brackets, which differ from the pattern of the main verandah (on the 1860s section) may have also been salvaged. The floor before the door threshold is paved with bricks - also a later alteration.

The east side elevation of the 1880s section has one pair of double-hung windows and a single one, both with a decorative hood (without the scalloped frieze). This secondary elevation is clad in plain weatherboards, but the complex cornice is continued. One of the two polychrome brick chimneys with a corbelled and moulded brick cornice is clearly visible on this elevation. The second chimney is on the other side of the M-hip roof and is visible when viewing the facade.

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/>