
Hope Park



Hope Park, undated (Source: Photographic History of Kangaroo Flat, private publication, Kangaroo Flat, 1994, volume 1, not paginated.)



East elevation.



North and east elevations.



Hope Park (centre) viewed from Alder Road to the north.

Location

11-13 Weir Court, KANGAROO FLAT VIC 3555 - Property No 241957

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO525

Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Hope Park (built 1867), at 12 Weir Court, Kangaroo Flat, was built in 1867 for Scottish architect David Weir. The dwelling is set in a deep allotment and comprises an original L-shaped stone house setback from the road (Weir Court). The house has a steeply pitched roof clad in Marseilles-pattern tiling with ridge capping, prominent gables to its east and north elevations, a timber-framed canted bay window with a half pyramidal tiled roof over in the east gable, and a diagonally angled central entry porch. The north gabled wing is coupled to another canted timber bay and a non-original stone-walled rear wing. The house also has a square plan terrace filling in its basic L-shape, with an angled entry step; the terrace is built up with a stone wall laid in a random pattern. The grounds, although significantly reduced and developed, feature a number of plantings including two cypress pines and two tall palms located to the north-east and south-west sides of the dwelling respectively.

How is it significant?

Hope Park (built 1867), at 12 Weir Court, Kangaroo Flat, is of local historical and aesthetic/architectural significance.

Why is it significant?

The picturesque dwelling Hope Park, constructed in 1867 of stone quarried on site and designed and built by Scottish architect David Weir, is historically important (Criterion A). It is an early agricultural property in the north-west of Kangaroo Flat, and significant as one of the few surviving properties dating to the early years of settlement in this area of the expanding suburb. The property was associated with the local Guidice family for some 90 years. Hope Park, in the cottage orne-style, is also of aesthetic/architectural significance (Criterion E) and an unusual style of dwelling in the Marong and broader municipal context (Criterion B). The picturesque cottage orne-style, introduced in Australia from the 1830s, was generally associated with settlers of Scottish descent, as occurred here. The property demonstrates many of the key characteristics of the cottage orne-style, including an L-shaped plan, steeply pitched roofs, conspicuous gabling and bargeboards, stone or masonry drip-mouldings, prominent chimneys, canted bay windows in the projecting wings, and addressing the site diagonally rather than frontally. The property is additionally prominent in its immediate context, with the high gabled wings making it one of the taller buildings in the surrounding modern suburban development, and visible in views from the roads to the north and west. The mature cypress pines and palm trees, on the north-east and south-west sides of the dwelling respectively, also have a high degree of visibility and enhance the presentation of the property.

Assessment Against Criteria

Amended Heritage Victoria Criteria

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of the City of Greater Bendigo's cultural history.

Hope Park (built 1867) at 12 Weir Court, Kangaroo Flat is of historical significance. The picturesque stone property, constructed of stone quarried on site, was designed and built by Scottish architect David Weir. Hope Park is also an early agricultural property in the north-west of Kangaroo Flat and significant as one of the few surviving properties dating to the early years of settlement in this area of the expanding suburb. The property was associated with the local Guidice family for some 90 years.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the City the of Greater Bendigo's cultural history.

Hope Park, in the cottage orne-style, is an unusual dwelling in the Marong and broader municipal context. It retains many of the distinctive characteristics of the style including an L-shaped plan, steeply pitched roofs, gabling and bargeboards, prominent chimneys, canted bay windows in projecting wings, and a diagonal presentation to the site.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the City of Greater Bendigo's cultural history.

N/A

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places or objects.

N/A

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics in the context of the municipality.

Hope Park is of aesthetic/architectural significance. The property demonstrates many of the key characteristics of the cottage orne-style, including an L-shaped plan, steeply pitched roofs, conspicuous gabling and bargeboards, stone or masonry drip-mouldings, prominent chimneys, canted bay windows in the projecting wings, and addressing the site diagonally rather than frontally. The picturesque cottage orne-style, introduced in Australia from the 1830s, was generally associated with settlers of Scottish descent, as occurred here. The property is additionally prominent in its immediate context, with the high gabled wings making it one of the taller buildings in the surrounding modern suburban development, and visible in views from the roads to the north and west. The mature cypress pines and palm trees also have a high degree of visibility and enhance the presentation of the property.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

N/A

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of the place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

N/A

Criterion H: Special association with life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in the City of Greater Bendigo's history.

N/A

Theme

4. Transforming and managing the land 6. Building towns cities and the garden state

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Heritage Policy Citations Review, Lovell Chen P/L, 2011;
Construction dates	1867,
Other Names	12 Weir Court,
Hermes Number	184913
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Hope Park, set in a deep allotment oriented east-west, comprises an original L-shaped stone house setback from the road (Weir Court), with rear additions, outbuildings and mature trees. The house addresses the east.

The L-shaped stone house has a steeply pitched roof clad in Marseilles-pattern tiling and ridge capping, with prominent gables on its front (east) and side (north) elevations, each with a timber soffit and exposed purlins. The roof has two ridges at right angles, the transverse ridge running across the longitudinal ridge to form a large dormer gable on the south side. Chimneys are located over the windows at the extremities of the two ridges. The rear rooms are under a broad mono-pitch roof that slopes back from the main gable group; this may have a membrane cladding, and it has new vents. The front wing has a timber-framed canted bay with half pyramidal tiled roof over and an apron sill, in the east gable and a diagonally angled central entry porch. The north bay is also gabled, with elongated double hung timber sash windows with stone sills, under two unusual pent drip courses of inset stone slabs.

The walls of the dwelling are reputedly 750mm thick, 4 in gallet stonework (where large stone blocks are infilled with chip and spall), with some quoin definition at the front wing corners. The gable bargeboards are simple planks, and the random coursed wing chimney, set directly above the canted bay, has rubble stone necking and a roughly bracketed cornice. The house has a square plan terrace filling in its basic L-shape, with an angled entry step. This terrace is built up with a stone wall laid in a random (irregular) pattern. The north gabled wing is coupled to another canted timber bay and a stone-walled rear wing. Modifications to the property include the roof tile cladding, which replaced the original shingle, possibly in the early twentieth century. The shingle-fronted entry porch may be later, and its waisted, arrow-headed finial is unusual. There is a later screen door. The various out buildings are of weatherboard or of corrugated galvanised steel cladding, painted, and the shed and monopitch roofs are all clad in corrugated galvanised steel, mostly painted. The grounds, although significantly reduced and developed, feature a number of plantings including two cypress pines and two tall palms located to the north-east and south-west sides of the dwelling respectively. The property is enclosed by a modern wire mesh fence.

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/>