PRIVATE HOSPITAL (FORMER)

23166 Hospital Former 99
McKebery St Coleraine 1508

23166 Hospital Former 99
McKebery St Coleraine 1509

Location

99 McKebery Street COLERAINE, Southern Grampians Shire

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 10, 2003

What is significant?
The former Private Hospital, located at 99 McKebery Street Coleraine is a substantial timber building which was initially built as a private residence for Octavius Palmer, an auctioneer. The Federation style timber residence is situated on a large elevated allotment on the corner of Gage and McKebery Streets, overlooking the township of Coleraine. The building is asymmetrically composed, with a hipped corrugated iron roof, projecting gables with bay windows, including a corner bay window. The attached timber verandah is balustraded, and has a return on the east side. The land was initially owned by the important local man, Isaac Gelson Gray, the first Policeman in Coleraine, who went on to become a 'colourful' local identity, running the Black Horse Inn and serving on a variety of committees within the township. Although the house was initially built for Octavius Palmer, within five years it had been transformed into Coleraine's second Private Hospital by a local Nurse, Beatrice Watson in 1914. The building continued to serve as a Private Hospital until the current Coleraine Bush Nursing Centre was established in 1930 when 99 McKebery Street was considered to have insufficient facilities. Since this time, the

house has been used as a private residence.

How is it significant?
The former Private Hospital at 99 McKebery Street, Coleraine is of historical significance to the township of Coleraine and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?
The former Private Hospital at 99 McKebery Street is of historical significance for the site's early associations with an important local figure, Isaac Gelston Gray. Gray was the towns first Constable, and in 1865, he retired to become the publican of the Black Horse Inn, a popular hotel in the nineteenth century. Gray was also an interesting community figure for his outspoken manner and presence on many of the major committees and boards of the Coleraine township. His political views appear to contrast strongly with those of other committee members at this time, being strongly socialist. The building is of further historical interest as for its use as a private hospital for fifteen years in the first half of the twentieth century, as it represents a way of service delivery that has been lost, and demonstrates how medical service provision has changed.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1910,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23166
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The building is in very good condition.

Physical Description 1

99 McKebery Street Coleraine is a federation style timber residence situated on a large elevated corner allotment overlooking the town. The building is asymmetrically composed, with a hipped corrugated iron roof, projecting gables with bay windows, including a corner bay window. The attached timber verandah is balustraded, and has a return on the east side.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies
3.26 Providing Health Services
3.26.2 Providing hospital services

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life
8.12 Living in and around Australian homes
8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

Usage/Former Usage

Private residence

Integrity

Externally, good degree of integrity, interiors not inspected.

Physical Description 2

Isaac Gelston Gray, first owner of the land.
Octavious Palmer, Auctioneer.
Beatrice Watson, a nurse who started the Private Hospital in 1914.
Mrs. Plydell

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/