
SHIRE SECRETARY'S RESIDENCE (FORMER)



23349 Shire Secretary s
Residence Former 24 Martin
St Pensh 1515

Location

24 Martin Street, PENSHURST VIC 3289 - Property No 0013

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 16, 2003

What is Significant?

The former Shire Secretary's Residence, is located on the north east corner of Watton and Martin Streets in the centre of the township, opposite the Mount Rouse Shire Council Chambers. The house takes the form of a single storey bluestone building with a broad , low pitched roof continuous over the verandah on four sides. The walls and fenestration of the house suggest a post-1860s and pre1900s date of construction, with the roof added as a major alteration during the Interwar period. The roof has been deliberately added to give the older house a more modern bungalow form. It is believed that house was built in the 1860s or 1870s, designed perhaps by John S. Jenkins, one of the most talented and prominent architects operating in the area in the nineteenth century. The property served as the residence for the Shire Secretary for some period, but has been in private ownership for many years. It has also been used as an art gallery, known as Bisquolm Gallery. The house is in good condition, but its integrity has been severely compromised by the replacement roof.

How is it significant?

The house is of historical and architectural significance to the township of Penshurst and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it Significant?

The house is of historical significance for its close proximity and association to the Mount Rouse Shire Council Chambers, located directly opposite, which reinforces the building's role as a Shire Secretary's Residence over a period of time. It is of further historical significance as the possible home of many of the Shire's Secretaries, including Baxter, Knight, Jenkins, Campbell, Dufton, Walls and Mason. The building is of architectural significance for its possible connections with notable architect John. S. Jenkins, who may have designed the house in the 1860s or 1870s.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1860,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	BISQUOLM,
Hermes Number	23349
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The building is in good condition.

Physical Description 1

The house, Bisquolm is a single storey bluestone building with a broad , low pitched roof continuous over the verandah on four sides. The walls and fenestration of the house suggest a post-1860s and pre1900s date of construction. The roof appears to have been added as a major alteration during the Interwar period. The house is symmetrical about the front door which faces north onto the side garden. There are double hung sash windows on either side of the door. There are three double hung sash windows on the west or Martin Street elevation. Chimneys rise from the walls opposite the front windows. [The interiors have not been inspected.]

Historical Australian Themes

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

residential

Integrity

Good degree of integrity

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/>