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## 22-24 Thompson St



26498 22-24 Thompson St

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### Location

22-24 Thompson St HAMILTON, Southern Grampians Shire

### Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

### Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

### Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

**SIGNIFICANCE:** » This house is significant as the home of the first Police Magistrate, its architecture and its 19th century garden adjacent to and associated with the Botanical Gardens.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Residence  
24 Thompson Street

This house has local significance for its architectural interest as an elegantly detailed brick house with a

substantially intact 19th century garden and for its historical associations with J P Hamilton (1827-84), Hamilton Police Magistrate, who lived there from 1873 until his death, ([i]) except for one year, 1875, when it was occupied by Nathan Thornley, surveyor. ([ii]) It has associations in the present century with Thomas Laidlaw, a well known Hamilton auctioneer. ([iii]) At first, in 1873, J P Hamilton's property was recorded as a house (NAV 100 pounds) but was identified in 1875-76 as house and stable with an NAV of 120 pounds, and in 1877 as a brick house and paddocks (NAV 140 pounds). ([iv]) Although J P Hamilton was amongst the leading public servants dismissed by the Berry Ministry on 'Black Thursday' in January of 1878, ([v]) he continued to own and occupy his Thompson Street home. His widow, Agnes, became the owner in 1885 and by the turn of the century, it was tenanted by Mary Learmonth, widow. ([vi])

The integrity of the house has been somewhat compromised by the partial replacement of the verandah. It is in good condition. The original layout of the garden has been changed however there is a number of trees which indicate a more extensive garden. Notable are the *Acer opalus*, *Morus nigra*, *Acer campestre*, Field Maple *Euonymus europaeus*, Spindle Bush and a large *Quercus palustris*, Pin Oak. This garden, being opposite the Botanic Gardens, appears to have benefitted in plant selection especially in the association of the *Acer opalus* and *Acer campestre* to the impressive *Acer velutinum* directly opposite in the Gardens and now on the Significant Tree Register.

[i] *Hamilton Rate Book 1873*, No. 146; 1885, No. 169; Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, pp 79, 88-89.

[ii] *Hamilton Rate Book 1875*, No. 147.

[iii] *Ibid.*, 1912, No. 233.

[iv] *Ibid.*, 1873, No. 146; 1876, No. 150; 1877, No. 132.

[v] Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, p 79.

[vi] *Hamilton Rate Book 1885*, No. 169; 1905, No. 218.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - City of Hamilton Conservation Study, Timothy Hubbard with Carlotta Kellaway & Michael Looker (plus Francis Punch), 1991;
Construction dates	1873,
Hermes Number	26498
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

### MATERIALS:

**Roof:** »corrugated iron

**Walls:** »Hamilton brick

**Dressings:** »timber

**Plinth:** »brick

**Windows:** »timber double hung sash

**Paving:** »gravel/coloured concrete

Other: »timber pergola

**NOTABLE FEATURES:**»19th century garden layout and rockery works

## Historical Australian Themes

### ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Evolution of the Town. 1870-80s/1900s.  
Government institutions. Local. Police  
Notable men and women  
Industry. Auctioneers.

### Integrity

Integrity: F Conditions: G

*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/>*