
13 Gray St



26509 13 Gray St

Location

13 Gray St HAMILTON, 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 -

SIGNIFICANCE: Almost certainly designed by Frank Hammond this was the long term home of Mrs Martha Thomson who was connected with Thomsons' Stores. The garden especially the *Araucaria heterophylla*, Norfolk Island Pine, is significant.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Residence
13 Gray Street

This building, originally listed as 11 Gray Street, has local significance as a good example of an Edwardian house, built about 1904, which is still well within the Victorian stylistic tradition. The architect was almost certainly Frank Hammond, town clerk, engineer and architect. It is also significant for its historical associations with Mrs Martha Thomson, widow. ([i]) Martha in 1894 became the widow of John Thomson, brother of William, and one of the partners in Thomsons' Iron Store at 138 Gray Street, the family business which since 1863 has been one of Hamilton's leading retail merchants. John was a councillor from 892-94 and he and his wife were leading figures in the town's Temperance Movement. Martha continued to work for the Temperance Movement until her death in 1932. Her brother, James Brake, who had been managing the Thomson firm's Horsham branch, took over Thomson business. ([ii]) The house was owned by Martha Graham in the 1930s. ([iii])

The architecture of the house though fine is old-fashioned for its time considering the avant garde work done by some Melbourne architects in Hamilton at the turn of the century. The house remains significantly intact and in excellent condition. The garden contains important remnants of the original plantings especially the *Araucaria heterophylla*, Norfolk Island Pine which relates to others in the street. Early drainage plans indicate a glass house and enclosed fish pond at the north-west corner of the garden.

[i] *Hamilton Rate Book* 1904 No 381 (House NAV 80 pounds).

[ii] Garden, D, *Hamilton*, pp 121-122.

[iii] *HSA DP 593* (1937-1964)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - City of Hamilton Conservation Study, Timothy Hubbard with Carlotta Kellaway & Michael Looker (plus Francis Punch), 1991;
Construction dates	1904,
Architect/Designer	Hammond, F,
Hermes Number	26509
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

MATERIALS:

Roof: corr'ed iron
Walls: rendered brick
Dressings: cement render
Plinth: cement render
Windows: timber dhs
Paving: concrete blocks
Other: cast iron verandah

NOTABLE FEATURES: large *Araucaria heterophylla* in front garden

Historical Australian Themes

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Evolution of the Town: 1900s

Tertiary Industry: Retailing

Notable Men & Women: Martha Thomson Temperance Leader

The Role of Women: Temperance Movement

Integrity

Integrity: E

Physical Conditions

Conditions: E

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/>