
James Berry House



26545 James Berry House

Location

162 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: Most intact shop in Gray St, this is a gem of the Queen Anne style which is also significant for its associations with Thomas O'Neill and James berry.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

James Berry House
162 Gray Street

This building has local significance for its architectural interest as the most intact shop in Gray Street, for its

glazed blue tiles and distinctive shopfront by Gill and for its historical associations from 1907 with Thomas O'Neill, haberdasher and draper, Secretary of the Hamilton Closer Settlement Association in 1905, and Secretary and major force in the Hamilton Progress Association formed in 1908. ([i]) O'Neill was a leading figure in the Hamilton Ratepayers Association in 1933. ([ii]) A new shop on the site (Crown Allotment 8, Section 5) was rated for the first time in 1905 owned by Sarah O'Reilly, who also owned stores and two wooden shops nearby. ([iii]) Thomas O'Neill, mercer and Robert George, tailor, were the owner/occupiers in 1907, O'Neill becoming the sole owner in 1909. ([iv]) By the 1930s, when the owner was James Berry, the property was known as Berry House. ([v])

The building is one of the most delightful examples of the Queen Anne style so popular at the time. It survives significantly intact except for the loss of its original verandah. It is in excellent condition and despite its small scale is an important contributor to the streetscape because of its detailing which charms the passer-by.

[i] Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, pp 160, 182.

[ii] *Ibid.*, p 215.

[iii] *Hamilton Rate Book 1905*, Nos. 176 & 179 (NAV 30 pounds & 100 pounds).

[iv] *Ibid.*, 1907, No. 181 (NAV 85 pounds); 1906, No. 174 (NAV 85 pounds).

[v] *HSA DP No. 227*, dated 1 March 1938.

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| Heritage Study/Consultant | Southern Grampians - City of Hamilton Conservation Study, Timothy Hubbard with Carlotta Kellaway & Michael Looker (plus Francis Punch), 1991; |
| Construction dates | 1905, 1938, |
| Hermes Number | 26545 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

MATERIALS:

Roof: corrugated iron

Walls: rendered brick

Dressings: cement render

Plinth: glazed blue tiles

Windows: copper plate glass

Paving: tiles

Other:

NOTABLE FEATURES: Intact shop front which is perhaps the best in Hamilton.

Historical Australian Themes

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Tertiary Industry: Haberdashers, drapers, tai

Evolution of the Town: 1900s

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/>