
Kilora



26573 Kilora

Location

45 Kennedy Street 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: Significant historically as the home of both G H Mott, editor of the *Hamilton Spectator* and T H Laidlaw, auctioneer. Architecturally significant for its use of polychrome brick and restrained style. ML to check garden which seems to be intact - relationship with Botanic Gardens to be discussed.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Kilora
45 Kennedy Street

One of the first properties in Hamilton, Kilora has regional significance for its architectural interest and its historical associations. It was owned by an early editor of the influential *Hamilton Spectator* and then by a prominent local auctioneer. The first part of Kilora was constructed in 1871-72 for George H Mott (c1832-1906), previously proprietor of the Albury *Border Post* and then editor of the *Hamilton Spectator* from about 1869. During his editorship the views of the newspaper, previously liberal, swung towards the conservative side of Victorian politics. ([i]) Kilora's second owner, the auctioneer, Thomas H Laidlaw (1862-1941) lived in and enlarged the house. Laidlaw bought the pastoral property Croxton during the soldier settlement era and subdivided it in 1905. ([ii]) He was at Kilora still in 1938, when the house was sewerred. ([iii]) By 1968 a new owner, W R Riches was recorded. ([iv]) For several years the house was used as a restaurant until 1990 when it was sold.

The house uses details and materials which were typical throughout the Victorian period. It is one of the few buildings in Hamilton which is built with polychrome brick, a fashion which raged through Melbourne and lasted for a whole generation. The architecture of the house gains distinction from its restraint. The extensions built by Laidlaw were sympathetic to the original design. The house remains significantly intact and in excellent condition. The garden, although now simple, has an important relationship with the Botanic Gardens across the street.

[i] *Hamilton Rate Book 1871*, No 252 (house, NAV 8 pounds), 1872, No. 244 (house allotment NAV 50 pounds); Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, pp 76-78, 97.

[ii] *Ibid.*, pp 130, 160, 194.

[iii] HSA DP No. 469 (shows ground plans).

[iv] *Ibid.*

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - City of Hamilton Conservation Study, Timothy Hubbard with Carlotta Kellaway & Michael Looker (plus Francis Punch), 1991;
Construction dates	1871, 1888,
Hermes Number	26573
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

MATERIALS:

Roof: corrugated iron

Walls: polychrome brick

Dressings: cream brick

Plinth: cement rendered brick

Windows: timber double hung sash

Paving: gravel

Other: cast iron verandah frieze

timber verandah columns

open timber gables

NOTABLE FEATURES: garden, original fence and gates, sensitive and late use of polychrome brickwork in extension.

Historical Australian Themes

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Evolution of the Town: 1860s, 1880s, 1890s

Communications: Newspapers

Tertiary Industry: Auctioneers

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/>