
HOUSE



View from street

Location

6 COWPER STREET,, ESSENDON NORTH VIC 3041 - Property No 199790

Municipality

MOONEE VALLEY CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO330

Heritage Listing

Moonee Valley City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The house at 6 Cowper Street is a small double-fronted Victorian weatherboard villa that was erected c.1890 for one Jonathon Cason on a large residential subdivision that had been laid out a few years earlier, but which subsequently failed to develop until much later.

How is it significant?

The house at 6 Cowper Street is of historical and aesthetic significance to the City of Moonee Valley.

Why is it significant?

Historically, the house at 6 Cowper Street provides rare evidence of residential settlement in North Essendon during the prosperous Boom era of the 1880s and early '90s. Two ambitious subdivisions were laid out between Bulla and Keilor Roads in 1884 and 1886, but these subsequently failed and remained largely undeveloped until the inter-war period. Dating from c.1890, the house at 6 Cowper Street was one of the few houses actually built on the estate in the nineteenth century, and is evidently the only one that still survives. On a broader scale, it is one of a very small number of surviving nineteenth century houses in the northern portion of the municipality, which developed largely in the twentieth century.

Aesthetically, the house is an intact and representative example of the type of modest double-fronted Italianate timber cottage that proliferated in Melbourne's suburbs in the late nineteenth century. While extremely common in certain southerly parts of the municipality (such as Ascot Vale, Kensington, Moonee Ponds and Essendon), such houses are considerably rarer as one progresses further north. This example thus remains as a distinctive element in a streetscape that is otherwise comprised entirely of 20th century housing.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Moonee Valley - City of Moonee Valley Gap Heritage Study, Heritage Alliance, 2005;
Construction dates	1890,
Hermes Number	29656
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The house at 6 Cowper Street is a single-storey double-fronted Victorian weatherboard cottage with a hipped roof of corrugated galvanised steel, penetrated by a pair of bichromatic brick chimneys with moulded capping in unpainted render. Its symmetrical facade has a central doorway with four-panel timber door, flanked by timber-framed double-hung sash windows. All three openings retain moulded timber external architraves. The verandah has a bullnosed roof of corrugated galvanised steel, supported on turned timber posts with curved brackets.

Historical Australian Themes

THEMATIC CONTEXT

3.5.3 Developing agricultural industries

4.1.2 Making suburbs

4.1.3 Learning to live with property booms and busts

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

Physical Conditions

CONDITION

The house is in good condition.

Integrity

INTEGRITY

The house is substantially intact. It retains many original elements including bichromatic brick chimneys with (unpainted) rendered capping, and external timber architraves to doors and windows. The front verandah has evidently been partly rebuilt, albeit in a sympathetic style.

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/>