

Victorian Heritage Database place details - 14/12/2019 CLAREMONT



Location:

143 NOBLE STREET NEWTOWN, GREATER GEELONG CITY

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number: H1127

Listing Authority: VHR

Extent of Registration:

AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 1127.

Claremont, 143 Noble Street, Newtown, City of Greater Geelong.

Extent:

1. All of the buildings known as Claremont, comprising the main house marked B-1, the 1910 glasshouse marked B-2, the stables marked B-3 and the weatherboard laundry block marked B-4 on Plan 606727 endorsed by the Chairperson, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Building Council.
2. All of the land described in Certificates of Title Volume 9374 Folio 448 and Volume 9374 Folio 449 marked L-1 on Plan 606727 endorsed by the Chairperson, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.

[Victoria Government Gazette No. G47 30 November 1995 p.3351]

Statement of Significance:

Claremont was designed in 1857 by the engineer Andrew McWilliams and constructed sometime between 1858 and 1861 for the successful Geelong grocer, William Blair. It is a symmetrically planned single storey

Italian Renaissance revival villa, with central projecting Tuscan portico and concave roofed encircling verandah terminated on both sides by projecting wings with balustraded parapets.

Claremont is of architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria.

Claremont is an extraordinary example of a finely detailed single storey Italian Renaissance revival villa of the late 1850's. The formality of the composition, with its symmetry, projecting Tuscan portico and balustraded parapet is reinforced in the interior by the remarkable formal hall. This large, central top lit hall, which adjoins the entry hall, is fully articulated with Corinthian pilasters and statuary niches. Claremont is the only known extant residence designed by the engineer Andrew McWilliams, and is an outstanding example of his work.

Claremont is also important for its long association with key figures of the wool industry in Geelong and the western district. In particular, Claremont was associated with the prominent wool broker, CJ Dennys as it was his residence from 1876 until his death in 1898. Following the occupation by Dennys, Claremont was purchased by Mr A W Gray, owner of the Albion Woollen Mills. It is still in the ownership of the Gray family.

Heritage Study	
Year Construction Started	1857
Architect / Designer	McWilliams, Andrew
Architectural Style	Victorian Period (1851-1901) Italianate
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place
Municipality	["GREATER GEELONG CITY"]
Other names	
History	