

Victorian Heritage Database Report
House at 22 Electra Street



Location:

22 Electra Street WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons Bay City

Heritage Status / Level of Significance:

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Number: HO97

Listing Authority: Hobsons Bay City

Precinct:

Electra Street Heritage Precinct

Statement of Significance:

What is Significant?

The house, originally constructed in 1857-58 with later additions, at 22 Electra Street, Williamstown.

How is it Significant?

The house at 22 Electra Street, Williamstown is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the City of

Hobsons Bay.

Why is it Significant?

Historically, it is in part, among the earliest group of houses in Williamstown and the earliest group of timber houses in Melbourne and demonstrates the early development of the suburb. It is also important for its association with the early maritime industry by its tenancies and Williamstown's noted photographer Andrew Rider. (AHC criteria A4 and H1)

Aesthetically, it is significant as an unusual mixture of early house forms that represent the diversity of approach to residential construction in the early Victorian period and contributes to the historic character of Electra Street. (AHC criteria E1)

Description

The house 22 Electra Street, Williamstown comprises an unusual combination of forms that clearly indicates two stages of building. A transverse gabled, steeply pitched iron-clad roof rises behind a probably earlier simply hipped, double-fronted verandahed cottage at the front. Beaded-edge weather boards clad the gabled wing which also possesses an attic and a brick chimney.

The chimney brickwork has been painted, the verandah has been altered and the former presumed picket fence replaced by a high timber fence.

A free-standing bluestone chimney at the rear has been identified by descendents as the only remains of Rider's studio.

NOTE: This house was being extensively renovated in 2003, which included the demolition of the front section of the house and the relocation of the high-roofed rear section further forward on the block.

Context

Contributes to the historic nineteenth century character of Electra Street.

Making Suburbs

Associations Andrew Rider, James Hutchison

Integrity: External Integrity and condition

Integrity - Moderate. Condition - Fair

Heritage Study / Consultant	Hobsons Bay - Hobsons Bay Heritage Study, Hobsons Bay City Council, 2006
Construction Date Range	
Architect / Designer	
Municipality	HOBSONS BAY CITY
Other names	
Hermes number	15027
Property number	

This place/object may also be State heritage listed. Check the Victorian Heritage Database. For further details, contact the local Council or go to Planning Schemes Online