## Heritage Citation Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Residence</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>42 Bridgewater Road, Portland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place Type</td>
<td>Residence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citation Date</td>
<td>10 June 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage listings</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended heritage protection</td>
<td>Glenelg Shire Planning Scheme (PS) Heritage Overlay (HO)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1: Residence at 42 Bridgewater Road (2016)
History and historical context

The development of a local brick industry in Portland in the 1850s was an important development for a small, isolated settlement. Prior to this, local builders relied on importation of bricks from Tasmania, a time-consuming and laborious task. In the time of early European development in Portland there were at least five different types of bricks manufactured locally and used in building construction. The earliest bricks (1840s–1860s) were handmade, and were generally small, quite soft and often rendered to make them stronger. Several local brick kilns were in operation, including possibly one at 7 Bentinck Street, Portland. Kilns were constructed close to the works being undertaken, so usually the quality of the bricks varied according to the clay available and the location of the brick within the kiln (Gordon Stokes, pers comm., 20 May 2016).

Up until the 1870s bluestone was the primary building material in Portland. However, the establishment of the Portland Brick and Tile Company in 1876 and two additional kilns in 1880 led to brick replacing bluestone as the commonly used building material in Portland. These bricks were large and had the company name pressed into the brick (Wilson Sayer Pty Ltd, 1981: 35). Regional brickworks developed in Victoria due to the high demand for locally produced building materials where transport costs would be lower and transporting heavy loads on poor roads could be avoided. The key to the survival of these brickworks was their location in areas that had high demand and economic growth (Stuart 1987:37).
The term ‘Portland Brick’ is used to refer to bricks made at the Parker’s Brickworks around 1900. These bricks are quite large and can range from ‘first class’ which is brown in colour, to the ‘clinker’ or overfired brick which is dark purple, and the ‘doe’ which is underfired and is yellow ochre in colour. These bricks have no depression or ‘frog’ on them (Gordon Stokes pers. comm. 20 May 2016).

The house at 42 Bridgewater Road was likely to have been built between 1901 and 1914 and is located on the corner of Parkers Road and Bridgewater Road to the west of Portland. There is a wetland area southwest of the property on the other side of Bridgewater Road. In 1921 Bridgewater Road was mainly composed of bluestone with western sections composed of limestone (Portland Guardian, 31 October 1921).

The house is built from Portland bricks made by Parker’s Brickworks (VHI D7221-0147; HO122), located at 22 Parkers Road, 450 metres north of the house. The brickworks was established by the Parker family and operated until the 1930s. Mr Parker had been trained at ‘Weltshire’ [sic] brickworks (Victorian Heritage Database 2016). It is assumed that this refers to the Wiltshire brickworks which were located in Portland. The Wiltshire brickworks were run by the Wiltshire family and in operation from 1877 to around 1910. The Parker’s Brickworks continued to operate under the management of Parker’s son before being demolished in the 1950s (Victorian Heritage Database 2016).

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

3 Developing local, regional and national economies

3.14 Developing an Australian engineering and construction industry

3.14.2 Using Australian materials in construction

4 Building settlements, towns and cities

4.5 Making settlements to serve rural Australia

8 Developing Australia’s cultural life

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

Description

Physical description

The house is an Edwardian style building with a corrugated iron hipped roof with a prominent, front-facing gable end with contrasting vertical timber battens. It was likely to have been built between 1901 and 1914 and was built from locally-sourced Parker’s Brickworks clinker bricks. There is a corrugated iron-roofed verandah at the front of the house which features a timber fretwork verandah valance, timber posts and decorative timber brackets. The house has timber framed double hung windows. There is a chimney at the rear on the right and an extension at the rear of the house.

The house is surrounded by a large garden with established fruit trees and a low brick fence is located at the front of the garden. The fence is a later addition and not considered contributory to the significance of the house.

Physical condition

Good

Usage/Former usage

Residence
Recommended management

Maintain generally as existing

Comparative analysis

HO368 House and Stables, 10 Pearson Street and 11 Chapel Street, Cremorne, Yarra City Council

This is a characteristic, double-fronted brick, hip-roofed cottage, between stepped, boundary wing-walls. The right-bay is set forward as a gable, with a window-pair; the upper section jettying in roughcast and timbers. The roof and skillion verandah roof are slate, the latter decorated with scalloped slates. The valence is a wavy timber palisade. There are terra-cotta finials, cresting, capping and chimney pots. The red bricks are tuck-pointed, sills and lintels are expressed. There is a fine, intact flyscreen door with spindle decoration. Paintwork and colours are rare originals.

The house and stables are historically and architecturally significant as a remarkably intact, characteristic, double-fronted, Edwardian brick house that retains an original stables building, which is rare in the Cremorne/Richmond area.

HO16 House, 2-200 Porteous Road, Toolern Vale, Melton Shire Council

The house at 2-200 Porteous Road, Toolern Vale, formerly 'Braemar', is significant as a predominantly intact example of an Edwardian style built c.1900-1910, and for its association with the Melton Park estate.

The house at 2-200 Porteous Road, Toolern Vale is architecturally significant at a local level. It demonstrates original design qualities of an Edwardian style. These qualities include the steeply pitched hipped roof form, together with the minor gable and broken back verandah that projects towards the front. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the single storey height, asymmetrical composition, horizontal timber weatherboard wall cladding, deep red painted and tapped galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding, broad eaves, face brick chimney with a multi-corbelled top, square timber verandah posts with incised bandings, timber verandah brackets and fretwork valance, timber framed double hung windows and timber window architraves, timber framed front doorway with sidelight and highlight and the decorative gable infill (stucco panelling and wide vertical timber battenning).

HO47 House, 2-180 Davis Road, Diggers Rest, Melton Shire Council

The house at 2-180 Davis Road, Diggers Rest, is significant as one of the most intact and refined examples of a timber Federation style in the Shire and for its early setting amongst mature cypresses and other exotics, the front being defined by the timber picket fence. The house was built c.1914 on one of the allotments sold in the break-up of the massive Clarke pastoral estate. It appears to be substantially intact with the interior of the house intact with all its period detailing. The house at 2-180 Davis Road is architecturally significant at a local level. It demonstrates original and outstanding design qualities of a Federation style. These qualities include the steeply pitched hipped roof form, together with the minor gables that project at the front and side that are linked by a broken back return verandah. Other intact or proper qualities include the single storey height, horizontal timber weatherboard wall cladding, unpainted galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding, broad eaves, five face brick chimneys with multi-corbelled tops, stop chamfered timber verandah posts with decorative incised bands, arched decorative solid timber fretwork valances with fan-light motifs, projecting rectangular bays on the gable ends with banks of three timber framed casement windows having highlights above, corner window bay with similar timber framed casements and highlights above, bracketed timber window hoods above the projecting bays, timber framed double hung windows and timber window architraves, timber framed door opening with sidelights and highlights, and the decorative gable infill (stucco panelled and vertical timber battenning). The mature cypresses and other exotic trees, and the front timber picket fence, contribute to the significant setting of the place. The farm buildings on the west side of the driveway contribute to the setting of the place and to an understanding of its significance as a working farm. The house at 2-180 Davis Road is historically significant at a local level as a representative example of one of the many small to medium sized farm homesteads established as a consequence of the historic break-up of the large pastoral estates in Melton Shire in the early twentieth century, in particular the Clarke's' vast Rockbank estate. It is also expressive of the new farming prosperity in that period.
Summary

The comparative analysis indicates that outside Melbourne, Edwardian style houses were often made of timber, not brick, as in the case of the house at 42 Bridgewater Road. However, this house is characterised by the typical Edwardian elements.

Statement of significance

What is significant?

Significant elements of the house at 42 Bridgewater Road, include:

- External Edwardian characteristics such as corrugated iron hipped roof with a prominent, front-facing gable end with contrasting vertical timber battens, corrugated iron roofed verandah which features timber fretwork on the front and side of the upper part of the verandah, timber posts and decorative timber brackets
- Use of locally sourced building materials such as Parker’s Brickworks bricks

How is it significant?

The house at 42 Bridgewater Road is of historical significance (HERCON criterion A) and demonstrates principal characteristics of a class (HERCON criterion D).

Why is it significant?

The house is of historical significance as it reflects a period of time when building materials in Portland were manufactured and sourced locally due to the relative isolation of Portland and the costs of transporting materials great distances. The use of bricks from Parker’s Brickworks, 450 m north of the house, demonstrates that this was a concern for Portland locals.

The house demonstrates the principal characteristics of the architecture of the Edwardian period. The front facing gable end with contrasting vertical timber battens, timber fretwork on the verandah and the decorative timber brackets provide a representative example of the typical style of the period which has made a contribution to the evolution of Victoria’s built environment.

Recommended Controls (2016)

- External Paint Controls: Yes
- Internal Alteration Controls: No
- Tree Controls: No
- Fences & Outbuildings: Yes
- Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted: No
- Incorporated Plan: No
- Aboriginal Heritage Place: No

References


**Newspapers**

Portland Guardian, Portland, Victoria, 1876-1953.

**Personal communications**

Gordon Stokes, Representative, National Trust, Portland, 20 May 2016.

This information is provided for guidance only and does not supersede official documents, particularly the planning scheme. Planning controls should be verified by checking the relevant municipal planning scheme.