

PLACE	HOUSE			Other name/s	G E Hinneberg Residence (former)		
Address	5 Dunn Street WONTHAGGI						
Study No	WN021	HO No	-	HPD No	-	Allotment No	2 (Section 20)
LGA	Bass Coast	Ward	Hovell	Parish	Wonthaggi	County	Mornington



Image Date	17 July 2009	Extent of listing	Whole allotment				
Designer/architect	Unknown	Architectural style	Federation/Edwardian Period (1901-1918) Victorian Survival				
Builder/maker	Unknown	Commenced	1911	Completed	1911		
Her Act Category	Heritage place		Historic Theme/s	13.2 Building Towns (Larger Centres)			
Her Item Group	Residential buildings (private)		Assessed by	S Reeves	Date	14/08/09	
Her Item Category	House		Reviewed by	-	Date	-	
Usage (2009)	Residence	Condition	Good	Intactness	Good		
Significance	Local	Recommendation	Include in VHR <input type="checkbox"/>	Include in RNE <input type="checkbox"/>	Include in HO <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Statement of Significance

What is Significant?

The house at 5 Dunn Street, Wonthaggi, is a single-storey Edwardian weatherboard house expressed as two offset rectangular hip-roofed wings with symmetrical street facade balanced by a bullnosed return verandah. It was erected during 1911 for tailor George Hinneberg, who, together with his brother Charles, commenced business as a tailor in McBride Avenue in 1910.

How is it Significant?

The house is of historic and aesthetic significance to the Shire of Bass Coast.

Why is it Significant?

Historically, the house is significant as one of several fine residences that were built in this part of Wonthaggi by prominent citizens (mostly local retailers and businessmen) which demonstrate the lofty aspirations of the wealthier residents of the new township (*AHC Criterion C.2*). The house is also of some local interest for its association with its original owner, George Hinneberg, who with his brother Charles, opened a successful tailor's business in McBride Avenue in 1911. This historic association is enhanced by the fact that George's brother, Charles Hinneberg, erected and occupied a house on the adjacent site at 7 Dunn Street (qv).

Aesthetically, the house is significant for its unusual expression, comprising a pair of attached but discrete hip-roofed rectangular wings with a street frontage that is both symmetrical (with its central front door flanked by windows) and asymmetrical (with a return verandah extending back to the offset rear wing). This distinctive and atypical form, which can be seen in only a few other surviving examples in Wonthaggi, represents a contrast to both the humble miner's cottages (which are otherwise comparable for their symmetrical facades) and the grander Edwardian villas (which incorporate similar return verandahs).

Physical Description

The house at 5 Dunn Street, Wonthaggi, is a single-storey double-fronted Edwardian weatherboard villa in what has been termed the Victorian Survival mode – that is, a style evocative of timber dwellings of the later nineteenth century. The house comprises two attached rectangular wings, each with a separate hipped roof clad in corrugated galvanised steel, with the rear wing being slightly offset to one side, allowing for a return verandah along the front and left side of the house. The street frontage is otherwise symmetrical, with a central front door flanked by rectangular windows with timber-framed double-hung sashes and moulded architraves. The verandah itself comprises a bullnosed roof of corrugated galvanised steel, painted in strips of dark red and cream, and supported on turned timber posts with a simple timber slat frieze.

The front property line is marked by a low timber fence with large square posts (surmounted by orbs) and rounded timber pickets (truncated to form a curving profile) and matching gates. Although not original, it is sympathetic to the style and era of the house.

Historical Notes

This house stands on part of Section 21 of the Township of Wonthaggi, a wedge-shaped block of nine residential allotments bounded Broome Crescent and Queen, Dunn and Billson streets. Despite the fact that this section was rather prominently located between Section 24 (site of the Mine Manager's House) and Section 17 (part of the development of Government Cottages), there is no reference to it in the first rate book of the Borough of Wonthaggi, dated June 1911. The section, including the present site (Lot 2) is first recorded in the next rate book, compiled only four months later. At that time, the property was rated as a house with a Net Annual Value (NAV) of £28, owned by George Edmund Hinneberg, a tailor of McBride Avenue. At the same time, his brother and business partner, C F W Hinneberg, had purchased the adjacent Lot 1 (on the corner of Billson Street) and erected a dwelling for himself.

George Edmund Hinneberg (1877-1923) and his older brother Charles Frederick William Hinneberg (1873-1948) were pioneer retailers in the new township of Wonthaggi. Electoral rolls reveal that the brothers had lived in Ballarat and St Kilda, respectively, before moving to Wonthaggi around 1911. The first borough rate book, compiled in June of that year, identified "Hinneberg Brothers" as the owners of retail premises, with a Net Annual Value of £80, on Lot 18 of Section 2, or what is now 148-150 Graham Street. When sites for commercial development became available for sale (as opposed to leasehold), George Hinneberg acquired Lot 6 of Section 5 (now 58-60 McBride Avenue). The tailoring business was evidently short-lived, however, as both brothers had vacated their houses in Dunn Street within only a few years. Charles had moved out of No 7 as early as 1912 (when he returned to St Kilda), while brother George remained next door for a few more years. He died in Malvern in 1923, at which time his occupation was identified as "commercial traveller".

The rate book for 1914-15 (dated 5 October 1914) bears a pencilled amendment indicating that George Hinneberg's former residence at 5 Dunn Street had been acquired by Peter Hunter, an electrician. Hunter remained living there until 1918, when he, in turn, was succeeded by Cecil Coslin, electrical engineer. Coslin and his wife Susie resided there until 1920, when the property was bought by Sarah Hunt, who was still living there in 1932. The rate book for 1937-38 identifies the occupant as Charles W Hunt, saddler, who was presumably either her husband or son. Rate books reveal that the house was still in the possession of "The Estate of Sarah Hunt" as late as 1962.

Comparisons

The unusual appearance of this house, with two rectangular hip-roofed wings placed parallel but slightly offset, presents a street facade that is both symmetrical in the manner of a traditional double-fronted cottage (with a central front door, flanking windows and full-width verandah) and asymmetrical (with the verandah returning down one side to meet the offset rear wing). This is highly atypical in Wonthaggi, and can be seen in only two other contemporaneous houses: the former residences of blacksmith R H Dilworth, at 117 Broome Crescent (qv) and the erstwhile Baptist manse at 4 Hunter Street (qv). In at least the latter case, the unusual form was consequent to the building comprising a two-roomed building that had been relocated from elsewhere, with a new three-roomed addition built on site in 1913.

Recommended Management

Encourage the retention of the return verandah as a semi-open space, with no solid or glazed infill to be constructed.

References

<i>Author</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Year</i>
Borough of Wonthaggi	Rate Books (held by Public Record Office)	Various