

Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017

PLACE NAME: Hurley House

Place No. CER06

ADDRESS: 100 McCann Street, Ceres

Assessment Date: May 2017

Historic Themes:**Early Settlement:** Land Sales**Townships:** Ceres**Condition:** Good**Integrity:** High**Photograph Date:** December 2016**CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON STATUTORY REGISTERS****Victorian Heritage Register:** No**Victorian Heritage Inventory:** No**Local Planning Scheme:** No**CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON OTHER REGISTERS:****National Trust (Victoria) Register:** No**RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

Local Significance

RECOMMENDATIONS:Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register: **No**Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Inventory: **No**Recommended for inclusion as a Heritage Overlay in the Planning Scheme: **Yes****Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**External Paint Controls Should Apply? **No**Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply? **No**Tree Controls Should Apply? **No**Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note? **No**Prohibited Uses May be Permitted? **No**Incorporated Document **No****Other Recommendations****STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:****What is Significant?**

'Hurley House' at 100 McCann Street, has significance as a representative but locally rare surviving example of a modest Victorian styled dwelling of timber construction in the Ceres village. Built in 1877 for John Hurley, farmer, quarryman, labourer and gardener, and his wife, Mary, the dwelling is predominantly intact and is a physical embodiment of 19th century rural residential life in the Ceres village that had been laid out as private subdivision by David Fisher in 1850. The significant fabric includes: single storey height and modest scale, hipped roof forms clad in corrugated sheet metal, hipped and concave roofed front verandah, timber weatherboard wall cladding, side chimneys with Barrabool stone breasts and Barrabool stone and brick shafts, central door opening with four panelled timber door, flanking timber framed twelve paned double hung windows, timber window sills, stop-chamfered timber posts with moulded timber capitals and the cast iron verandah brackets.

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How is it significant?

'Hurley House' at 100 McCann Street, Ceres, is historically and aesthetically significant at a LOCAL level.

Why is it significant?

'Hurley House' at 100 McCann Street has historical significance for its associations with rural life and residential development in the village of Ceres in the 1870s at a time when the small settlement was progressing as a centre for the surrounding farms and vineyards and other enterprises (Criterion A). Built in 1877 for John Hurley, farmer, gardener, labourer and quarryman, and his wife, Mary, the dwelling represents the only known house constructed in the 1870s in the Ceres village, 20 years following initial building development in the small farming settlement.

'Hurley House' at 100 McCann Street is aesthetically significant as a representative and intact example of a vernacular Victorian style, being one of very few examples of its type of timber construction original to its location in the Ceres area, and the only timber example original to the Ceres village (Criterion D). The vernacular design is especially identified in the modest scale and rudimentary detailing, the post-supported verandah with cast iron brackets being the only embellishments. While the dwelling reflects typical Victorian stylistic elements comparable in form, scale and some detailing to other locally significant 19th century dwellings in the Ceres village, 'Hurley House' also has a contextually unusual hipped roof composition with the articulation of the hipped roofs forming a roof valley that traverses the dwelling.

Heritage Overlay Map

It is recommended that the heritage overlay is applied to the fenced area surrounding the dwelling at 100 McCann Street, Ceres, as shown on the following aerial image:



Source of image: City of Greater Geelong 2016.

DESCRIPTION:

The dwelling at 100 McCann Street, Ceres, is situated on a contextually modest, rural allotment at the northern end of McCann Street. The setting of the property is largely open and grassed, apart from a mature Cypress tree that dominates the front boundary. There is introduced timber post and rail

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fencing on the front (east) and side (south) boundaries, as well as rural post and wire fencing. To the north of the dwelling is an elevated single storey, gabled shed of recent construction.

The single storey, timber weatherboard, Victorian styled dwelling has a hipped roof form at the front, together with hipped roofs at the rear, the central roof valley traversing the dwelling and draining on the north side (rather than extending and draining to the rear). There is a corrugated sheet metal roof (painted grey) and no eaves or gutters. On the south side are two chimneys with original Barrabool stone external chimney breasts. The rear chimney has an original Barrabool stone shaft with additional seven brick courses at the top that appear to have been introduced in the early 20th century. The front (eastern) chimney shaft is of brick construction, the majority being of bricks that may date from the early 20th century, with a face red brick capping that has been added, possibly in the 1930s or 1940s.

The front (east) façade is symmetrical, having an original central door opening with four panelled timber door, and flanking timber framed twelve paned double hung windows. There are timber window sills but no architraves to the door or windows. The front is also characterised by an original hipped and concave verandah supported by stop-chamfered timber posts with moulded timber capitals. The bases to the verandah posts have been removed and replaced with stirrups. The verandah is adorned by cast iron brackets. The concrete verandah floor has been introduced.

At the rear is a gabled timber weatherboard wing that may have been added during the interwar period or mid 1940s. It has a painted corrugated sheet metal roof, modest eaves (with timber lined soffits) and an external brick chimney on the south side. On the north side of this wing is a shallow-pitched addition that is connected to the rear of the original dwelling.

Overall, the cottage appears to be in good condition when viewed from a distance. There seems to be some loose flashing adjoining the chimneys on the south side, and any previous gutters have been removed. There is some deterioration in the Barrabool stone chimneys. The cottage has high integrity, reflecting its original Victorian design. The most noticeable change is the concrete verandah floor and alterations to the bases of the verandah posts with stirrups.

HISTORY:

Early Settlement of the Barrabool Hills

For at least 5,000 years, the Barrabool Hills was occupied by sections of the Wathaurong, a nomadic Indigenous tribe.¹ The Wathaurong's existence at Barrabool was to be dramatically changed with the arrival of John Batman and his exploration party in 1835. Arriving from Tasmania with the explicit intention of exploring the area, the eventually developed into the Port Phillip Association.² Establishing his headquarters in the vicinity of Indented Head, Batman explored the Bellarine Peninsula and Geelong region.³ One of Batman's party, John Helder Wedge, a surveyor, ventured further westward in exploring other parts of the region. He eventually followed the Barwon River from Fyansford along the foot of the 'Barrabool' Hills.⁴ There, 'he noted that the hills afforded "fine pastorage for sheep".⁵ From 1836, squatters arrived at Geelong to take up land for sheep grazing.⁶

1 I. Wynd, *Barrabool: Land of the Magpie*, Barrabool Shire, Torquay, 1992, p.ix.

2 *Ibid.*, p.3.

3 *Ibid.*

4 *Ibid.*, pp.4-5.

5 *Ibid.*

6 *Ibid.*, p.5.

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By 1839, the Barrabool Hills had been surveyed as part of the Barrabool Parish.⁷ Large acreages were made available at a Government land sale in late 1839.⁸ In February 1840, much of the Barrabool Hills was acquired by Charles McLachlan, a wealthy Scottish businessman of Tasmania, and his business partner, Captain Charles Swanston, English banker and merchant of Tasmania and member of the Port Phillip Association⁹ who purchased Sections 2-3, 13-16, and 20-23 as his vast 4,480 acre Strathlachlan sheep estate.¹⁰ In 1850, Sections 22 and 23 and parts of Sections 13 and 14 of the Strathlachlan Estate (Barrabool Parish) were subdivided into 65 farms centred on a village of 45 building sites as the Merrawarp Estate.¹¹ By 1861, there were only 10 owner residents in the Estate, with four fifths still being tenant farmers.¹² At this time, the Barrabool Hills were considered to be the 'granary of the colony,'¹³ the location of sheep grazing and crop farms, and vineyards.



Figure 1: Part Barrabool Parish Plan, Dept of Lands & Survey, Melbourne, March 1946, showing land sections in the Barrabool Hills, including Ceres. Source: VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria

⁷ Barrabool Parish Plan, VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria.

⁸ Port Phillip Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser, 9 December 1839, p.3.

⁹ D.S. Macmillan & J.R. Morris, 'McLachlan, Charles (1795-1850)' *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mclachlanh-charles-2411/text3191>, published first in hardcopy, 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017 & C. Swanston, 'Swanston, Charles (1789-1850)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://abd.anu.edu.au/biography/swanston-charles-2713/texttext3815>, published first in hardcopy 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017.

¹⁰ Barrabool Parish Plan, op.cit. & Wynd, op.cit., p.43.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p.22.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ *Geelong Advertiser*, 14 September 1874, p.2.

Another successful purchaser in February 1840 was William Robertson, Port Phillip Association member. He acquired Sections 5, 11 and 12.¹⁴ Two days after his purchase, Robertson sold Sections 11 and 12 to David Fisher, manager of the Derwent Company (successor to the Port Phillip Association). He named his estate 'Roslin' which he subdivided into farms that were leased to various tenants.¹⁵ In 1850, Fisher created the village of Ceres as a private subdivision of 58 allotments in part of Section 12 (Figure 2).¹⁶ The small settlement was soon to become the centre of the agricultural district where the neighbouring properties farmed crops, grazed sheep and established noteworthy vineyards.

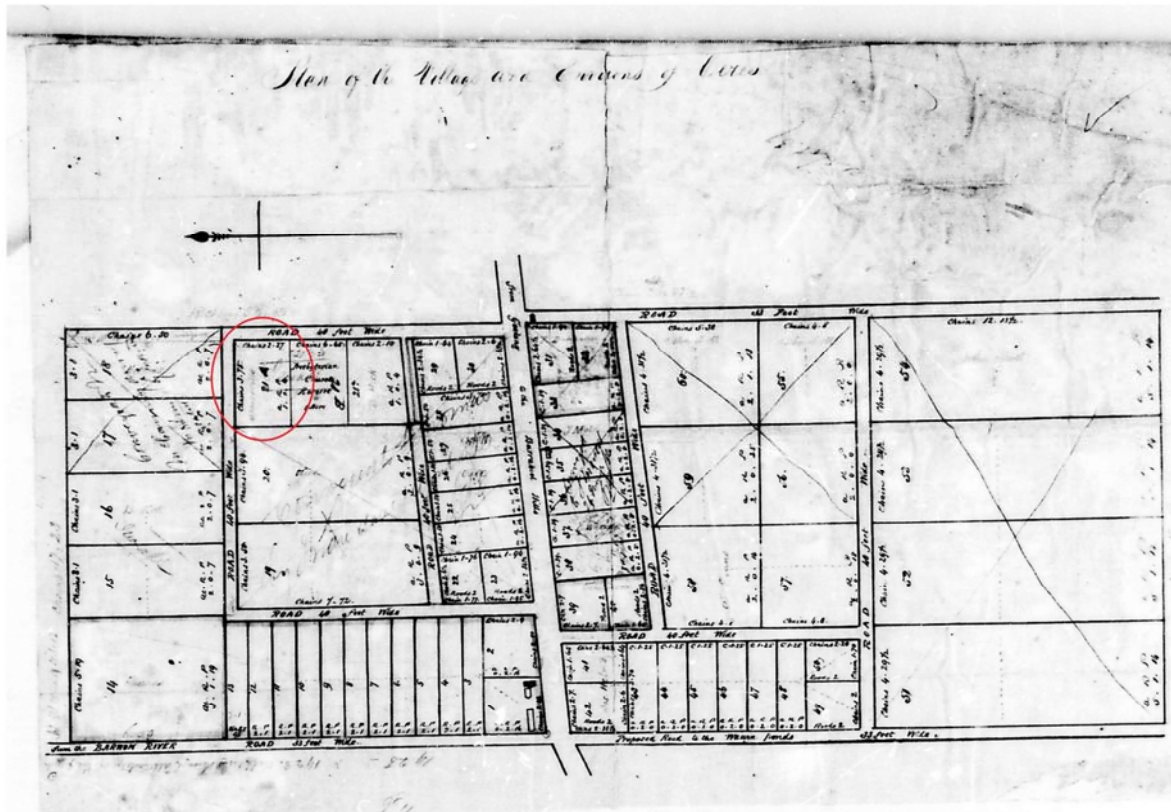


Figure 2: Fisher's subdivision plan of the Ceres Village, 1850. The circled allotment is the location of Hurley House.
Source: Maps & Plans collection, 17/60, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre.

History of Hurley House

The Original Dwelling

Possibly initially intended to be purchased by a Mr Somerville,¹⁷ lot 21A comprising 1 acre, 2 roods and 33 perches was first taken up by Alexander Thomson and John Calvert in 1850.¹⁸ They sold the land to Thomas Jewell and Charles Sladen on 7 November 1851.¹⁹ Three years later on 11 August 1853, the land was purchased by Stephen Thomas, a tenant farmer of the neighbouring 'Roslin' Estate from the early 1840s.²⁰

14 Barrabool Parish Plan, op.cit.

15 Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.208.

16 Fisher's Ceres Village Subdivision Plan, 1850, Maps & Plans collection 17/60, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre.

17 This is the name hand-written on the Ceres Village Subdivision Plan (Figure 2).

18 Land Application 419247, General Law Library, Laverton

19 Ibid.

20 Ibid. & Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.69.

Between 1853 and 1856 on allotment 21A (now part of 100 McCann Street), Thomas built a four roomed weatherboard cottage with a shingle roof.²¹ There was a kitchen within the dwelling at the rear, and a detached dairy.²² In 1856, Thomas' dwelling – and particularly the views from the property – was described in the *Geelong Advertiser*:

Behind the Chapel is a charming villa site, the property of Mr Stephen Thomas, of the Wheatsheaf. This dwelling commands one of the loveliest and most picturesque views in Victoria. To the east, the Bay of Corio stretches afar in all its grandeur – you discern the smoking steamers and heavily laden lighters as they near the harbor, whilst behind suddenly spring up as though from the very beach the rugged and isolated Youangs [sic.]. Opposite the Youangs [sic.] ride the richly freighted merchants ships anchored at Point Henry. Look to the north, and the view is equally refreshing – the Barwon lies at your feet far below, threading its tortuous course between the steep and abrupt banks formed by nature for its channel; ever the anon it is hidden from sight by an overhanging or perpendicular precipice. Across the Barwon the eye is enlivened by an extensive tract of gently rising country, variegated by cultivated paddocks, cleared pasture ground, and wooded patches; while beyond and surmounting these ride the Hills of Boninyong, frowning with majestic grandeur, calmly sublimed by the intervening distance.²³

Stephen Thomas (c.1801-1884) of Hampshire, England, was a stonemason.²⁴ There, he married his wife, Ann Thomas (nee King) (c.1802-1872).²⁵ They had three children: Annie (born c.1826), George (born 1829) and Sarah (born c.1831).²⁶ In 1843, the Thomas family emigrated to Victoria on the *Royal Consort*, arriving in February 1844.²⁷ They were assigned to William Kirby of Merriang near Myrtleford.²⁸ Before 1847, the Thomas family relocated to Ceres where Stephen Thomas farmed approximately 224 acres of Fisher's subdivided 'Roslin' estate before he purchased the land in later years.²⁹

With the sale of village allotments at Ceres in 1850, and following 'some years of toil and exertion to accumulate a handsome sum of money',³⁰ Stephen Thomas purchased lots 1-4 in the Ceres village in 1850.³¹ On lot 1, he built the Wheat Sheaf Hotel, the location of numerous community activities in the following years.³² His wife, Ann, 'a buxom hostess' known locally as "Mother Thomas", managed the hotel from the mid 1850s until 1859 when it was leased to William Armour.³³ Described as

21 *Geelong Advertiser*, 4 November 1872, p.3.

22 *Ibid.*

23 'Village of Ceres on the Barrabool Hills: An Evening's Sketch', *Geelong Advertiser*, 26 July 1856, p.2.

24 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, Department of Justice, Melbourne. See also M. Cotter, 'Stephen Thomas' biographical information, Rootsweb at Ancestry online <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=marycotter&id=I95455045> Cotter listed Thomas' birthplace as Hampshire yet the Assisted Shipping Register listed him as native of London. See Assisted British Immigration Register, Thomas family, February 1844, *Royal Consort*, Book 2/3, p.162, 169, Public Record Office Victoria & microfilm version, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre.

25 *Ibid.*

26 *Ibid.*

27 *Ibid.*

28 *Ibid.* See Assisted British Immigration Register.

29 *Geelong Advertiser & Squatters' Advocate*, 17 September 1847, p.2, listed Stephen Thomas of the Barrabool Hills as a subscriber to a relief fund. See also Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.25, Scott, *op.cit.*, pp.1-2 & *Geelong Advertiser*, 15 April 1863, p.4 & 16 May 1863, p.4.

30 *Ibid.*, 5 July 1872, p.2.

31 Scott, *op.cit.*, p.12.

32 Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.69.

33 *Geelong Advertiser*, 4 April 1859, p.2.

'rubicund and lusty' in 1856, she administered to the comforts of her patrons and was described as 'a rare specimen of the beautiful and invigorating properties of the Barrabool clime.'³⁴

Mrs Thomas was entrepreneurial and energetic. With her daughter, Annie, they embarked on a coal prospecting enterprise at the rear of the Wheatsheaf Hotel.³⁵ Mrs Thomas in particular was determined to prosecute the search for mineral wealth, funding a supervisor and workmen, and rejecting offers to form companies.³⁶ The venture failed, forcing the Thomas' out of the hotel business. By April 1859, the Wheatsheaf Hotel had been leased to William Armour.³⁷ In 1863 with a £1000 mortgage,³⁸ Stephen Thomas advertised the sale of his farm, Wheatsheaf Hotel and a nearby cottage and blacksmith's shop they also owned.³⁹ Only the farm sold, the hotel and cottage (with blacksmith's shop) being leased throughout the 1860s.⁴⁰ Stephen and Ann Thomas retired to their cottage in McCann Street where they 'earned a scanty subsistence' on the proceeds of their orchard on the site⁴¹ and rental of their other properties.

Ann Thomas died in 1872 aged 69.⁴² Her death brought on the foreclosure of the £1000 mortgage on the property.⁴³ Stephen Thomas' son, George, and son in-law, Seth Selby, negotiated a £450 redemption with G.A. Stephen, mortgagee's agent, in order to retain the cottage.⁴⁴ The redemption had to be realised within a week. The Wheatsheaf Hotel with 10 acres of land was sold for £305 and Selby provided the balance.⁴⁵ Selby became owner of the cottage on 3 September 1872,⁴⁶ the day the cottage was destroyed by fire, and Seth Selby was implicated, resulting in an inquest.⁴⁷ Stephen Thomas subsequently retired to the residence of his grandson, Edward McKenna, of Ceres, until his death in 1884, aged 83.⁴⁸

34 *Ibid.*, 26 July 1856, p.2.

35 W.R. Brownhill & I. Wynd, *The History of Geelong and Corio Bay With Postscript 1955-1990*, postscript edn., The Geelong Advertiser, Geelong, 1990, p.404. Annie Thomas married George Brush in 1849 and following his death, she wed Seth Silby who had associations with Ceres in the 1850s and 1860s. Annie Thomas appears to have emigrated separately to Victoria than her parents and siblings. See Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

36 *Geelong Advertiser*, 5 July 1872, p.2.

37 *Ibid.*, 4 April 1859, p.2.

38 Land Application 419247, op.cit.

39 *Geelong Advertiser*, 15 April 1863, p.4 & 16 May 1863, p.4.

40 William Armour appears to have leased the hotel until 1867 as it was at this time when Jemima Tonkin was reported as the new licensee of the hotel. See *Geelong Advertiser*, 31 December 1867, p.3. By 1869-70, it appears that the hotel had closed, as Stephen Thomas was listed as owner/occupier and in the following year, 1870-871, the hotel appears to have been listed as a house and "empty". See Barrabool Shire Rate Books, op.cit., 1869-71.

41 *Geelong Advertiser*, 5 July 1872. See Barrabool Shire Rate Books, op.cit., 1869-1871, which gave Stephen Thomas as owner of the Wheatsheaf Hotel (it appears to have been listed as a house in 1870-71 and "empty").

42 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

43 Land Application 41924 op.cit. & *Geelong Advertiser*, 4 November 1872, p.3.

44 *Geelong Advertiser*, 4 November 1872, p.3.

45 *Ibid.*

46 Land Application 419247, op.cit.

47 *Geelong Advertiser*, 4 November 1872, p.3. Seth Selby was arrested by Sergeant Toohey with unlawfully and maliciously setting fire to the dwelling, with the intent to defraud the National Insurance Company. A verdict was returned 'that the premises were wilfully set on fire, but that there was no evidence to enable them to say by whom. They also added that Selby was entitled to censure for not using better endeavours to extinguish it.' Admitted to bail, Selby was later discharged in the Geelong Police Court on 13 November 1872. See *The Age*, 14 November 1872, p.3.

48 *Ibid.*, 9 January 1884, p.2 & Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

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Just a month after the fire, Selby sold the land to Robert McDowall, storekeeper, postmaster and Wesleyan preacher, on 22 November 1872.⁴⁹ Five years later in July 1877, he sold it to Peter McCann who immediately sold it to John Hurley.⁵⁰

The Existing Dwelling

John Hurley, farmer, gardener, labourer and quarryman, built the existing timber dwelling in 1877.⁵¹ His landholdings then comprised 7.5 acres and with the dwelling, it held a net annual value of £10.⁵² His landholdings increased to 9 acres in the following year, the net annual value also increasing to £13.⁵³ With his wife, Mary, they lived at this property until 1914.⁵⁴

John Hurley (1834-1915) was born in the Parish of Payhembury, near Honiton in Devon, England.⁵⁵ He was the third child of farmers, Thomas Hurley and Elizabeth Bradley. According to Ann Hurley in 'A New Life at Ceres: Hurley and Skidmore Family History':

John grew up to be tall, dark and blue-eyed, and worked on his father's property at Beer Farm which is about halfway between the villages of Payhembury and Broadhembury. The 1841 Census shows the family at Beer Farm: his father Thomas, un-married aunt Susann Hurley, older sisters Jane and Elizabeth, and two farm workers. In 1851 he is still there with his father and two older sisters, and in 1861 he is listed with his father and one sister.⁵⁶

On 12 July 1861, Hurley emigrated to Victoria with his friend, John Burrows, to try his luck on the Victorian goldfields.⁵⁷ Following little success in mining, Hurley settled at Ceres where 'he returned to his occupation of farming, and growing vegetables to seel at the Geelong market.'⁵⁸ According to Anny Hurley:

John was able, and no doubt needed to be able, to turn his hand to a variety of jobs. On his marriage certificate he is described as a labourer, but he also supplemented the family's income from the farm by working throughout the western district as a shearer. At the time of his son's marriage in 1887, John is described as a quarryman, probably being employed in the local quarry in the Barrabool Hills.⁵⁹

Hurley married Miss Mary Margaret Quinn (1845-1917) in 1864 at the Geelong Registry Office at the Geelong Court House.⁶⁰ She was the daughter of Elizabeth (nee Tamplin/Frisby) and Patrick Quinn.⁶¹ Her family came to Ceres when Mary was 3 or 4 years of age, her father Patrick taking up farming until his death in 1851.⁶² Mary's mother, Elizabeth, worked as a dressmaker and a midwife.⁶³

49 Land Application 419247 op.cit.

50 Ibid.

51 Ibid.

52 Barrabool Shire Rate Book 1876-77, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre.

53 Ibid., 1877-78.

54 A. Hurley, 'A New Life at Ceres: Hurley and Skidmore Family History' at <http://www.hurleyskidmorehistory.com.au/hurley-and-box-families/a-new-life-at-ceres-john.html>

55 Ibid.

56 Ibid.

57 Ibid.

58 Ibid.

59 Ibid.

60 Geelong Registry Office Marriage Register transcript, Geelong Family History Group Inc.

61 Hurley, op.cit.

62 Ibid.

Declining due to age, in 1908, John Hurley (Figure 3) offered for lease 25 acres of land in Section 23, along with 8 acres of land adjoining his dwelling.⁶⁴ In 1915, he transferred ownership of his property to his son, Thomas, a school inspector.⁶⁵ The household furniture and effects of John and Mary Hurley were auctioned on 28 April 1915.⁶⁶ They relocated to Ballarat to live with their son, Thomas.⁶⁷ John Hurley died there on 20 December 1915.⁶⁸ Mary Hurley died two years later in 1917 at the Terang home of her daughter.⁶⁹



Figure 3: John Hurley in Ballarat, n.d. [c.1915].

Source: J.V. Hurley in A. Hurley, 'A New Life at Ceres ...'.

In the initial ensuing years, Thomas Hurley leased the cottage in McCann Street to Frank Lamond (1917-19) and W. Shell (1919-21).⁷⁰ He sold the property to Mrs Emily Jessie McCann in 1923.⁷¹ Emily McCann (nee Lamond) was the wife of Sidney Herbert McCann, grandson of Peter McCann, founder of Australian Portland Cement Limited, and son of Peter McCann, sandstone quarryman and lime kiln operator, and initiator in the commencement of the cement works at Fyansford.⁷² Emily McCann subsequently leased to T.T. Adams.⁷³ She retained ownership until her death in 1925 when

63 Ibid.

64 Geelong Advertiser, 22 October 1908, p.8.

65 Land Application 419247 op.cit. & Barrabool Shire Rate Book, op.cit., 1917.

66 Geelong Advertiser, 27 April 1915, p.6.

67 Hurley, op.cit.

68 Ibid.

69 Ibid. See also *Ballarat Cemeteries & Crematorium: Burials & Cremations Registers*, CD, Genealogical Society of Victoria & Ballarat & District Genealogical Society Inc., 2006.

70 Barrabool Shire Rate Books, op.cit., 1917-1921

71 Certificate of Title, vol. 3988 fol. 566.

72 J. McNeill, *A Journey to Destiny 1890-1990: 100 Years of Cement Manufacturing at Fyansford by Australian Cement Limited*, Australian Cement Limited, Melbourne, 1990, pp.12-13, 88-89.

73 Barrabool Shire Rate Book, op.cit., 1924-25.

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the property was described as ‘containing nine acres and one perch or thereabouts on which are erected a five roomed weatherboard house and outbuildings’ valued at £550.⁷⁴ In 1926, the property was acquired by Ernest Wesley McCann, son of Emily and Sidney McCann, woolclasser of Geelong.⁷⁵ It appears that the gabled outbuilding was built during Ernest McCann’s ownership. In 1960, the property was transferred to McCann Pastoral Company Pty Ltd.⁷⁶

By 1970, additions had been constructed on the north side of the rear gabled wing.⁷⁷ By the 1990s the garden surrounding the dwelling had overgrown (Figures 4-5). Between 2012 and 2016, it was removed and replaced, and repairs appear to have been made to the original dwelling, including painting and upgrades to the front verandah. Mature trees surrounding the dwelling were also removed at this time.⁷⁸



Figure 4: Hurley House, 1997.
Source: David Rowe.



Figure 5: Hurley House, 1998.
Source: E. McGillivray in A. Hurley, ‘A New Life at Ceres...’.

COMPARATIVE

Other Comparable Dwellings in the Ceres Village⁷⁹

‘Hurley House’ at 100 McCann Street is one of eight surviving Victorian dwellings constructed in the Ceres village and wider Barrabool area. The most comparable are those within the Ceres village, with hipped roofs, minimal eaves and symmetrical front facades with central door opening and flanking timber framed 12 paned double hung windows. Unlike ‘Hurley House’, all of these other dwellings are constructed of Barrabool stone with slate roofs and lack front verandahs, are Georgian in design and built in the 1850s and 1960s. Collectively, their designs and construction have established a vernacular design trait peculiar to the Ceres area. These dwellings have varying levels of integrity and are included as heritage overlays:

- Semi-detached dwellings, 5-7 Heal Street, built c.1850s.
- Former Smithy’s dwelling, 539 Barrabool Road, built before 1856.
- Sandstone cottage, 523 Barrabool Road, built c.1850s.
- Sandstone cottage, 517-521 Barrabool Road, built before 1867. Compositionally, this dwelling is less comparable given its gabled roof form.

⁷⁴ McCann, Emily, Probate Administration files, 1925, VPSR 28/P3 Unit 1561, Public Record Office Victoria.

⁷⁵ Certificate of Title, op.cit & Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

⁷⁶ Certificate of Title, op.cit.

⁷⁷ Aerial image of Ceres & Barrabool Hills, December 1970, film 2457, Landata.

⁷⁸ Aerial images for 2012 & 2016 held by the City of Greater Geelong.

⁷⁹ Historical information is taken from A. Willingham, *Geelong Region Historic Buildings & Objects Study*, vol.1, Geelong Regional Commission, Geelong, 1986.

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Other 19th Century Timber Dwellings in Ceres

'Hurley House' is one of very few dwellings constructed in the 19th century in timber surviving in Ceres. The other dwellings are:

- Former Little River State School No. 1961, 521 Barrabool Road, built at the same time as 'Hurley House' in 1877.⁸⁰ This former school building (now dwelling) is not comparable to 'Hurley House'. Apart from its picturesque gabled composition, it is not original to the Ceres village, having been relocated to its current site in 2008-09 and altered and adapted into a dwelling.⁸¹
- Victorian dwelling, 2 Gully Road.⁸² This contextually substantial and elaborate timber dwelling was relocated to this site in c.1993 and is therefore not original to the Ceres village.
- 'Erinvale', 285 Gully Road, built in c.1896 (proposed for a heritage overlay).⁸³ This Late Victorian styled timber dwelling has hipped roof forms and projecting post-supported verandah but it is not directly comparable to 'Hurley House'. The more elaborate verandah detailing is reflective of its construction 20 years after 'Hurley House'. Like 'Hurley House', it is original to the Ceres area.

Overall, 'Hurley House' is one of a small number of 19th century modestly scaled and rudimentary Victorian dwelling surviving in the original Ceres village reflecting early rural life. In particular, it is the earliest of only two surviving dwellings of timber construction original to the Ceres area.

80 Construction date of the Little River State School is taken from <http://lrps.vic.edu.au/schoolhistory.html>

81 See City of Greater Geelong Planning Permit 268/08 and City of Greater Geelong Building Permit 2008/3027/1

82 A larger allotment was subdivided to create the existing property at 2 Gully Road in 1993. See Plan of Subdivision PS323445J, 1 September 1993, City of Greater Geelong.

83 See heritage citation as part of this study for further details.