
KELLY COTTAGE



Kelly Cottage, front (west) elevation, with gable roofed outbuilding at right (south)



Kelly Cottage, west and south elevation of the cottage, note ruins of former kitchen at rear



Kelly Cottage, the outbuilding as viewed from Caldow Road



Kelly Family, 1904. Left to right: Susan (Tot), George, Sarah (Mother), Kathleen (Kit), Daniel (Jr.), Joe, Daniel (Father), Grace, Eliza. Photo supplied by Betty Dean, granddaughter of Daniel and Sarah Kelly.

Location

117 CALDOW ROAD, WOODVALE - PROPERTY NUMBER 201472, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO692

Heritage Listing

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 24, 2024

What is significant?

The Kelly cottage property on Caldwell Road comprises two mud brick buildings, the main cottage addressing but setback from Caldwell Road and a smaller outbuilding at the rear. The Kelly property is a landholding to the east of Woodvale's historic town centre. The two buildings are located in the south-west corner of the landholding. The main house is a symmetrical, single-storey mud brick cottage with a hipped roof. The front (west) elevation has a central door, off-centre, flanked by timber-framed windows. There is also a small window to the centre of the south elevation. The hipped roof is clad in corrugated steel, painted. The guttering and downpipes appear to be recent. An external chimney breast, rendered, is to the north wall. The base, which is presumed to be mud brick, is topped with red brick. A verandah, partially collapsed in 1998, has been removed. 'S' braces at the corners and through the centre of the building provide additional support. There are the remains of a brick hearth/fire place at the rear, presumed to be the former kitchen. The smaller gable-ended outbuilding, at the rear of the site, is also built of mud brick and is believed to be a later addition, built largely out of materials salvaged from demolition of the kitchen extension. The walls are rendered, decaying in some areas to expose the bricks and re-used bricks appear to have been pointed with cement mortar, now deteriorating. The outbuilding has a shallow gable roof, clad in corrugated sheet metal in poor condition. There is a brick chimney. The entrance is positioned asymmetrically to the north wall. There is a louvre window on the south elevation. The building was poorly constructed, with undersized structural timber in the roof and lintel above the window, and ungalvanised or poorly galvanised roof sheeting with has corroded badly.

How is it significant?

The former Kelly cottage is of local historical, aesthetic/architectural and technological significance.

Why is it significant?

The mud brick Kelly cottage, believed to have been built by miner [i] Daniel Kelly in c.1892, and, to a lesser extent, the later mud brick outbuilding are historically significant (Criterion A). The former Kelly cottage, at 117 Caldwell Road, Woodvale, is of historical significance. Daniel Kelly is believed to have built the first part of this property in 1892. The property provides evidence of local development in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, where miners and other settlers of limited means continued to build low cost dwellings using vernacular construction methods and locally available materials. Mud brick dwellings of this type were often referred to as 'German' houses in the Bendigo area, where they were common; the description may owe its origins to the German settlers of South Australia who used adobe construction from the 1830s. It is also possible that mud brick building techniques were introduced to the Victorian goldfields via the diggers from California.

The mud brick buildings, including the c 1892 main cottage and later, smaller outbuilding to the rear, are also of aesthetic/architectural significance (Criterion E). The two buildings, with their simple building forms including the symmetrical main house, are substantially externally intact, save for the removal of the rear kitchen extension [ii]. The buildings also still present as mud brick (adobe) structures. There is additionally some aesthetic value in the informal treed setting, including the adjacent remains of a brick hearth/fire place at the rear, presumed to be the former kitchen.

Technologically (Criterion F), the mud brick buildings are substantially unaltered examples of vernacular mud brick buildings of the early twentieth century, providing evidence of the ongoing use of this construction technique decades after it was first used for buildings in the Bendigo goldfields region.

[i] Changed from 'farmer', *Heritage Policy Citations Review, 2011*. November 2011.

[ii] Changed from 'verandah', *Heritage Policy Citations Review, 2011*. November 2011.

Theme

6. Building towns cities and the garden state

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Heritage Policy Citations Review, Lovell Chen P/L, 2011;
Construction dates	1892,
Hermes Number	184963
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The Kelly cottage¹⁴ property on Caldwell Road comprises two mud brick buildings, the main cottage addressing but setback from Caldwell Road and a smaller outbuilding at the rear. The Kelly property is a landholding to the east of Woodvale's historic town centre. The two buildings are located in the south-west corner of the landholding.

The main house is a symmetrical, single-storey mud brick cottage with a hipped roof. The front (west) elevation has a central door, off-centre, flanked by timber-framed windows. There is also a small window to the centre of the south elevation. The hipped roof is clad in corrugated steel, painted. The guttering and downpipes appear to be recent. An external chimney breast, rendered, is to the north wall. The base, which is presumed to be mud brick, is topped with red brick. A verandah, partially collapsed in 1998, has been removed. 13'S' braces at the corners and through the centre of the building provide additional support.

There are the remains of a brick hearth/fire place at the rear, presumed to be the former kitchen. The smaller gable-ended outbuilding, at the rear of the site, is also built of mud brick and is believed to be a later addition, built largely out of materials salvaged from demolition of the kitchen extension.¹⁴ The walls are rendered, decaying in some areas to expose the bricks and re-used bricks appear to have been pointed with cement mortar, now deteriorating.¹⁵ The outbuilding has a shallow gable roof, clad in corrugated sheet metal in poor condition. There is a brick chimney. The entrance is positioned asymmetrically to the north wall. There is a louvre window on the south elevation.¹⁶ The building was poorly constructed, with undersized structural timber in the roof and lintel above the window, and ungalvanised or poorly galvanised roof sheeting with has corroded badly.¹⁷

The mud bricks walls of the main house appear to be in generally sound condition. There is some evidence of damp at the north of the cottage. The roof fabric, walls and render to the outbuilding are in a decayed condition.

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>