

## CRAMOND HOUSE



CRAMOND HOUSE SOHE  
2008



1 cramond house 23  
queensberry street carlton  
front view



cramond house 23  
queensberry street carlton  
balcony & arch detail  
jul1979



cramond house 23  
queensberry street carlton  
front entrance jul1979

### Location

23 QUEENSBERRY STREET AND 4-12 ELM TREE PLACE CARLTON, MELBOURNE CITY

### Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

### Level of significance

Registered

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0482

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO89

## VHR Registration

February 17, 1981

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 19, 2000

### WHEA AREA OF GREATER SIGNIFICANCE

What is significant?

Cramond House was erected in 1888 by the Paterson family. It is one of a pair of houses designed for the Patersons by the architect Thomas Watts and built by A Oliver. The Patersons sold Dalmeny House in 1890 to an artist, John Brunton. Cramond House is in the so-called boom-style classicism, with a characteristic range of classical elements and free detailing. It is a three storey house of brick construction with a rendered facade and a two storey verandah. The ground floor level of the verandah is treated as an arcade composed of stilted segmental arches with nail head mouldings and rustication to the spandrels. A simple iron palisade fence runs along the line of the arcade. The upper storey is a loggia with round arches. The main parapet is very elaborate with a baroque broken pediment flanked by scroll work and balustrades. Other details include an antefix, decorated keystones, masks and urns.

How is it significant?

Cramond House is of architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

Cramond House is architecturally significant as a prominent feature of the Queensbury Street precinct and unusual example of its type. Cramond House survives intact with its neighbour Delmaney House as an unusual example of the so-called boom style classicism, notably for the highly mannered treatment of the verandah and unusual decorative elements including nail head mouldings and rusticated spandrels to the arcade.

Cramond House is historically significant for its close association with Melbourne artists and writers. Together with its neighbour Delmaney House, it was the regular meeting place in the late 1880s and the 1890s of a large group of Melbourne artists and writers, including one of its first occupiers John Ford Paterson, a notable painter from 1892-1911. Others in the group included Paterson's brothers Hugh and James, Arthur Streeton, Frederick McCubbin, Max Meldrum and Louis Esson.

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or

consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

Construction dates	1888,
Architect/Designer	Watts, Thomas,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	241
Property Number	

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## History

### Contextual History:

The Paterson family and their circle were described as the 'Bloomsbury set' of Melbourne by the Argus Weekend Magazine in May 1938. Charles Stewart Paterson arrived from Scotland in 1872 and founded Paterson Bros., a firm of house decorators. John Ford Paterson, an artist, returned to Scotland in 1875 to further his study and was especially influenced by the Glasgow School. He returned in 1884. He helped form the Victorian Artists' Society in 1888, and was its president at the turn of the century. He died at Cramond house in July 1912.

The architect Thomas Watts arrived in Victoria in 1853 and commenced business with Robert Russell as Russell and Watts. The firm became Russell, Watts and Pritchard until 1864, then Smith and Watts until 1872, then Watts became sole proprietor. Watts also designed the Albert Street Baptist Church, Bontherambo Mansion near Wangaratta and the J M Davies mansion in East Malvern, subsequently Malvern Grammar School. Watts was President the Victorian Institute of Architects in 1884/5.

Associated People: John Brunton

John Ford Paterson

## Extent of Registration

Historic Building No. 482 Cramond House, 23 Queensberry Street, Carlton.  
[Victoria Government Gazette No. 110 - 17 December 1980 p.4323]

*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/>*