
HOUSE AND PALM TREE



House and Canary Island palm, 16 Crook Street

Location

16 CROOK STREET, KENNINGTON, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO892

Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 11, 2023

What is significant?

The stone and brick house and palm tree located at 16 Crook Street; Kennington are significant. The existing palm tree and original location, form, materials and details of the residence are integral to the significance of the place.

The more recent brick addition at the rear of the building is not significant.

How is it significant?

The stone and brick house and palm tree located at 16 Crook Street, Kennington are of local historical, rarity, aesthetic, and associative significance to the City of Greater Bendigo.

Why is it significant?

The stone and brick house is of historical significance for its demonstration of the establishment of European settlement in the Grassy Flat district, now Kennington, from the 1860s, that followed the opening of the Grassy Flat Reservoir in 1861. By 1909 the district was populated by settlers on small holdings, many of whom were involved in dairying. In 1911, a school was opened and named Kennington. The existing house is believed to have been constructed in 1872 on part of Allotment 165, Section H, Parish of Sandhurst. The property incorporated an extensive garden, of which the existing palm tree is the only remnant. (Criterion A)

The house is aesthetically significant as a rare surviving example of a stone and brick residence dating from the 1870s constructed in the Grassy Flat (Kennington) area. The residence is also of aesthetic significance for the skilled craftsmanship demonstrated in the stonework. The palm tree is an important aesthetic reminder of the once extensive garden that surrounded the house. (Criteria B & E)

The property is of associative significance for its links with Sir James Joseph Casey, who took over title to the land in 1869. Casey was an important figure in Bendigo and Victoria's history, taking a prominent role in public affairs at both a local and state level. He was the co-owner of the Bendigo Advertiser in 1855, and in 1857, when the Land Convention (which campaigned for land reform to free up land that was leased by squatters) was established, the election of delegates from Bendigo was carried out under Casey's auspices. He was a member of the municipal council of Sandhurst in 1860-61 and the first president of the Campaspe Road Board (later the Huntly Council) in 1861. He was also a member of various boards and committees in Sandhurst. As a member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly almost continuously from 1861 to 1880, Casey served as Commissioner of Crown Lands and President of the Board of Land and Works, as Justice Minister in 1868-72, and as Minister for Agriculture in 1872-1875. Casey served as a crown prosecutor in 1883 and as a County Court Judge in 1884-1900. He died in St Kilda in 1913. Even though he lived in St Kilda in his later years, Casey did not forget his connection to Bendigo, donating part of his art collection to the Bendigo Art Gallery on his death. (Criterion H)

The house is also of significance for its associations from 1872 with prominent local Bendigonians, including mine managers, Ross Macartney and John K Scott, and Bendigo City Council mayor, James Macdougall.

Heritage Study/Consultant Citation for 16 Crook Street, Kennington, History in the Making, 2015;

Construction dates 1872,

Other Names Canary Island palm (*Phoenix canariensis*),

Hermes Number 39354

Property Number

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/>