

# FORMER CHRISTOPHER CRISP RESIDENCE



RESIDENCE SOHE 2008



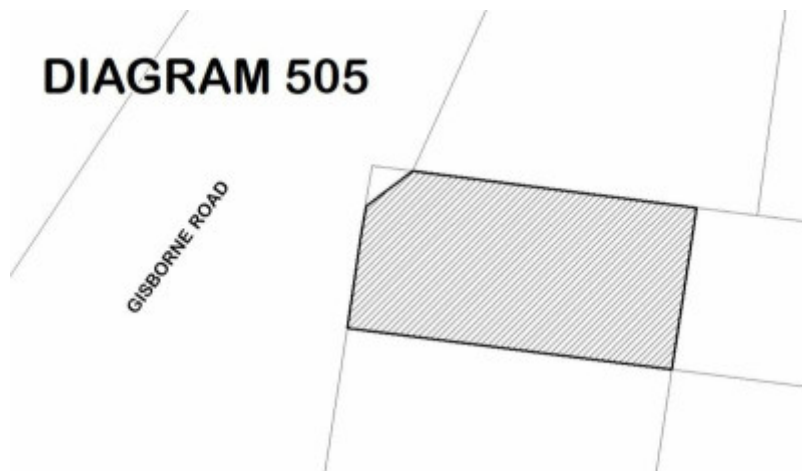
RESIDENCE SOHE 2008



h00505 heritage express  
cottage h0505



residence gisborne rd  
bacchus marsh detail of iron  
lace



## Location

10 GISBORNE ROAD AND 10 CHURCH STREET BACCHUS MARSH, MOORABOOL SHIRE

## Municipality

MOORABOOL SHIRE

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0505

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO4

## VHR Registration

September 16, 1981

## Amendment to Registration

June 9, 2022

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 12, 2022

### What is significant?

The Former Christopher Crisp Residence includes a c.1860 single-storey cottage of rendered brick with a south-facing verandah; an 1868 adjoining single-storey dwelling with a slate roof and ornate concave verandah facing Gisborne Road; and a T-shaped red brick outbuilding, constructed during the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries. Initially constructed for a co-founder of the Bacchus Marsh Express, William Watson, it was further developed by newspaper editor and proprietor Christopher Crisp.

### How is it significant?

The Former Christopher Crisp Residence is of historical significance to the State of Victoria. It satisfies the following criterion for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register:

## Criterion A

Importance to the course, or pattern, of Victoria's cultural history.

## Criterion H

Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Victoria's history.

## Why is it significant?

The Former Christopher Crisp Residence is historically significant for its associations with the development and production of local newspapers in regional Victoria during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The Former Christopher Crisp Residence is part of a group of adjacent buildings which were integral to the development of the Bacchus Marsh Press from the 1860s, including the Bacchus Marsh Express Office and Printing Works (VHR H0504) and the former residence at 6 Gisborne Road (VHR H0503). [Criterion A]

The Former Christopher Crisp Residence is historically significant for its association with the prominent newspaper proprietor Christopher Crisp, who was the editor of the Bacchus Marsh Express from 1866 until his death in 1915. Under Crisp's direction, the Express became one of the most notable regional newspapers in Victoria, widening its readership and obtaining subscriptions from public men and civil servants in Melbourne. [Criterion H]

## 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](#).

### Specific Exemptions:

## Permit Exemptions

The following permit exemptions are not considered to cause harm to the cultural heritage significance of the Former Christopher Crisp Residence.

### General

- Minor repairs and maintenance which replaces like with like. Repairs and maintenance must maximise protection and retention of significant fabric and include the conservation of existing details or elements. Any repairs and maintenance must not exacerbate the decay of fabric due to chemical incompatibility of new materials, obscure fabric or limit access to such fabric for future maintenance.
- Maintenance, repair and replacement of existing external services such as plumbing, electrical cabling, surveillance systems, pipes or fire services which does not involve changes in location or scale.

- Repair to, or removal of items such as antennae; aerials; and air conditioners and associated pipe work, ducting and wiring.
- Works or activities, including emergency stabilisation, necessary to secure safety in an emergency where a structure or part of a structure has been irreparably damaged or destabilised and poses a safety risk to its users or the public. The Executive Director must be notified within seven days of the commencement of these works or activities.
- Painting of previously painted external and internal surfaces in the same colour, finish and product type provided that preparation or painting does not remove all evidence of earlier paint finishes or schemes. This exemption does not apply to areas where there are specialist paint techniques such as graining, marbling, stencilling, hand-painting, murals or signwriting, or to wallpapered surfaces, or to unpainted, oiled or varnished surfaces.
- Cleaning including the removal of surface deposits by the use of low-pressure water (to maximum of 300 psi at the surface being cleaned) and neutral detergents and mild brushing and scrubbing with plastic (not wire) brushes.

## Venues

- The installation and/or erection of temporary elements associated with outdoor dining. This includes temporary structures such as shelters, umbrellas, marquees and outdoor seating.

## Interiors

- Maintenance, removal and/or replacement of appliances and other equipment necessary for food and beverage preparation and to meet food and safety regulations.
- Maintenance, removal and/or replacement of appliances and other equipment necessary for the operation of the commercial kitchen and to meet food and safety regulations.
- Works to maintain or upgrade existing bathrooms, including installing new appliances, re-tiling and the like.
- Installation, removal or replacement of carpets and/or flexible floor coverings, window furnishings, and devices for mounting wall hung artworks, menu boards and the like.
- Maintenance, repair and replacement of light fixtures, tracks and the like in existing locations.
- Installation, removal or replacement of existing electrical wiring. If wiring is currently exposed, it should remain exposed. If it is fully concealed it should remain fully concealed.
- Removal or replacement of smoke and fire detectors, alarms and the like, of the same size and in existing locations.
- Repair, removal or replacement of existing ducted, hydronic or concealed radiant type heating provided that the central plant is concealed, and that the work is done in a manner which does not alter building fabric.
- Installation of plant within the roof space, providing that it does not impact on the external appearance of the building or involve structural changes.
- Installation, removal or replacement of bulk insulation in the roof space.

## Outdoor areas

### *Hard landscaping and services*

- Subsurface works to existing watering and drainage systems provided these are outside the canopy edge of trees and do not involve trenching in new locations. Existing lawns, gardens and hard landscaping, including paving, paths and driveways are to be returned to the original configuration and appearance on completion of works.
- Like for like repair and maintenance of existing hard landscaping including paving, paths and driveways where the materials, scale, form and design is unchanged.
- Removal or replacement of external signage provided the size, location and material remains the same.
- Installation of physical barriers or traps to enable vegetation protection and management of vermin such as rats, mice and possums.

### *Gardening, trees and plants*

- The processes of gardening including mowing, pruning, mulching, fertilising, removal of dead or diseased plants (excluding trees), replanting of existing garden beds, disease and weed control and maintenance to care for existing plants.
- Removal of tree seedlings and suckers without the use of herbicides.
- Management and maintenance of trees including formative and remedial pruning, removal of deadwood and pest and disease control.
- Emergency tree works to maintain public safety provided the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria is notified within seven days of the removal or works occurring.

Construction dates	1860,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	PART OF EXPRESS GROUP, FORMER CHRISTOPHER CRISP RESIDENCE,
Hermes Number	45
Property Number	

## History

The original part of the house was built in c.1860 by William Watson, one of the founders of the Bacchus Marsh Express and a builder by trade, for himself and his mother. It consisted of a gabled cottage with a verandah across the front (now replaced) and was constructed of ruled rendered brick and probably had a shingled roof. In 1868 Watson extended the house, building the two-room cottage that now fronts onto Gisborne Road. In 1876 Watson sold his house and advertised it as "house of brick with slate roof, consisting of seven rooms, dairy, wash-house and underground tank, and outbuildings and one acre of land". It was bought by James Samford for £325 and tenanted until 1880 when it was purchased by Christopher Crisp.

The Bacchus Marsh Express was founded by George Lane, a book binder, and the first issue was published on 7th July 1866. The second edition was published by the Bacchus Marsh Express Printing Co. which consisted of Dr. Are (editor), Rev James Scott, John Sanders, James E Crooke, James Young, William Watson and George Lane (printer). The syndicate failed after three months and the ownership was then taken up by Lane and Christopher Crisp, an Englishman who had been employed as a compositor by the company. Crisp was the editor of the Express from 1866 till his death in 1915, when he was succeeded by his son, Christopher, till 1932 and his grandson, FCM. Crisp, thereafter. Under Crisp's direction, the Express widened its readership and was subscribed to by public men and civil servants in Melbourne.

In the 1870s Crisp argued for the extension of Government responsibilities as a basis for social and political progress. In the 1880s Alfred Deakin and James Service acknowledged the influence of the Express on their legislative thinking and its proposals were debated during the drafting of the Federal constitution in 1895-98. In local affairs Crisp was active in promoting the Mechanic's Institute and water storages, revived the Agricultural and Pastoral society in 1883 and negotiated the completion of the Ballarat- Melbourne railway line in 1889. He made a number of private contributions to the legislative debates of the 1880s-1890s, publishing *Wanted: a Cosmology* (Bacchus Marsh 1895) and seed thoughts, *Victoria Review* 8th September 1883. During Crisp's ownership the house was further extended to the rear sometime after 1890. This involved the enclosure of the well at the rear and the addition of outbuildings.

After his death the building was occupied by Mrs Mcfarlane and a flat was added to the rear of the house c.1945 for an employee of the newspaper who later became a part-owner of the Express. The property remained in the ownership of the Crisp family until its sale in 1977. The house, throughout its many additions remains fairly simple with the exception of the 1868 addition which fronts on to Gisborne Road. Constructed of brick, with stone quoining at the corners and windows surrounds, the addition has a gabled roof with bargeboards decorated with lozenges. The concave colonial verandah is supported by simple timber posts and has a most elaborate cast-iron frieze and brackets based on French renaissance revival forms and employing the use of sinuous caryatids in the

brackets. Internally the house is very simple with coved plaster ceilings in the original part and several fireplaces which appear to be later additions. The verandah to the south side is new but probably replaced an original. The 1940s addition is an unexceptional brick building with interest lying only in its squared-off keyhole portal.

This house is one of three buildings adjacent to each other along Gisborne Road all connected with the Bacchus Marsh Express. They are the newspaper office and on each side the home of the original editor and printer. This building is of great importance as the home of Christopher Crisp and is an integral part of the Express complex.

## **Extent of Registration**

### NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the Heritage Act 2017, I give notice under section 53 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by modifying a place in the Heritage Register:

Number: H0505

Category: Registered Place

Place: Former Christopher Crisp Residence

Location: 10 Gisborne Road, Bacchus Marsh

Municipality: Moorabool Shire

All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 505 encompassing all of Lot 1 on Title Plan 840806.

Dated 9 June 2022

STEVEN AVERY

Executive Director

*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/>*