WOMBOLANO

ADDRESS: 14 William Street, Wodonga

STUDY NUMBER: 2B HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

DATE: 1900

CONDITION: Good

INTEGRITY: Good



Façade/east elevation (RBA, June 2024)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

What is significant?

Wombolano at 14 William Street, Wodonga built in 1900 for Jane Hamilton is significant. The significant elements are the form, hip roof clad in corrugated sheet, chimneys, symmetrical façade, original bi-chrome brickwork, bullnose verandah with posts and cast-iron capital and decorative frieze/brackets, entry with top-light and timber, double hung sash windows.

The non-significant elements are front fence and path, rear weatherboard addition and pergola, and brick garage.

How is it significant?

Wombolano at 14 William Street, Wodonga is of local historical and aesthetic significance to the City of Wodonga.

Why is it significant?

Wombolano is of historical significance as it is among a small group of 19th century or turn of the century residences to survive in the municipality and a signifier of the formative years of development of Wodonga. (Criterion A)

Wombolano is of aesthetic significance as an unusually intact and good example of a late Victorian period house with a symmetrical façade of which few survive in the municipality and is highly evocative of its period of construction. Elements of note are the paired chimneys, bi-chromatic brickwork in stretcher bond, four-panelled door, and the bullnose profile verandah with its cast iron elements, timber columns and that it retains a timber deck. (Criterion E)

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The turn of the century (late Victorian period) house at 14 William Street, named *Wombolano,* is largely visible from the public domain behind a non-original timber picket fence, which is however complementary to the period of the house, and planting. A front garden path (not original paving) extends to a painted.



North elevation (RBA, June 2024)

The single storey house has a symmetrical façade with a hip roof with a U-shaped configuration and clad in corrugated sheet metal and ogee profile gutters. There are two red brick chimneys with corbelled caps and a modern air-conditioning unit is partly concealed in the central valley. The walls are bi-chromatic brickwork in stretcher bond – mainly red with cream brick quoining and voussoirs to the segmental arches of the front openings.

A bullnose verandah extends across the façade supported on columns with plain shafts on a base (possibly timber) with a cast iron capital and decorative frieze and brackets. The timber deck is not original fabric but is in keeping with the likely original deck. The central four panelled

timber door has a toplight and is flanked by timber double-hung sash windows with flush sills (probably rendered). The window to the north elevation has a segmental arch with red brick voussoirs.



Verandah and front garden (Biosis, March 2020)

To the rear is a modern weatherboard addition and timber pergola. A wide garage with a skillion roof and recycled bricks is located in the north-east corner.

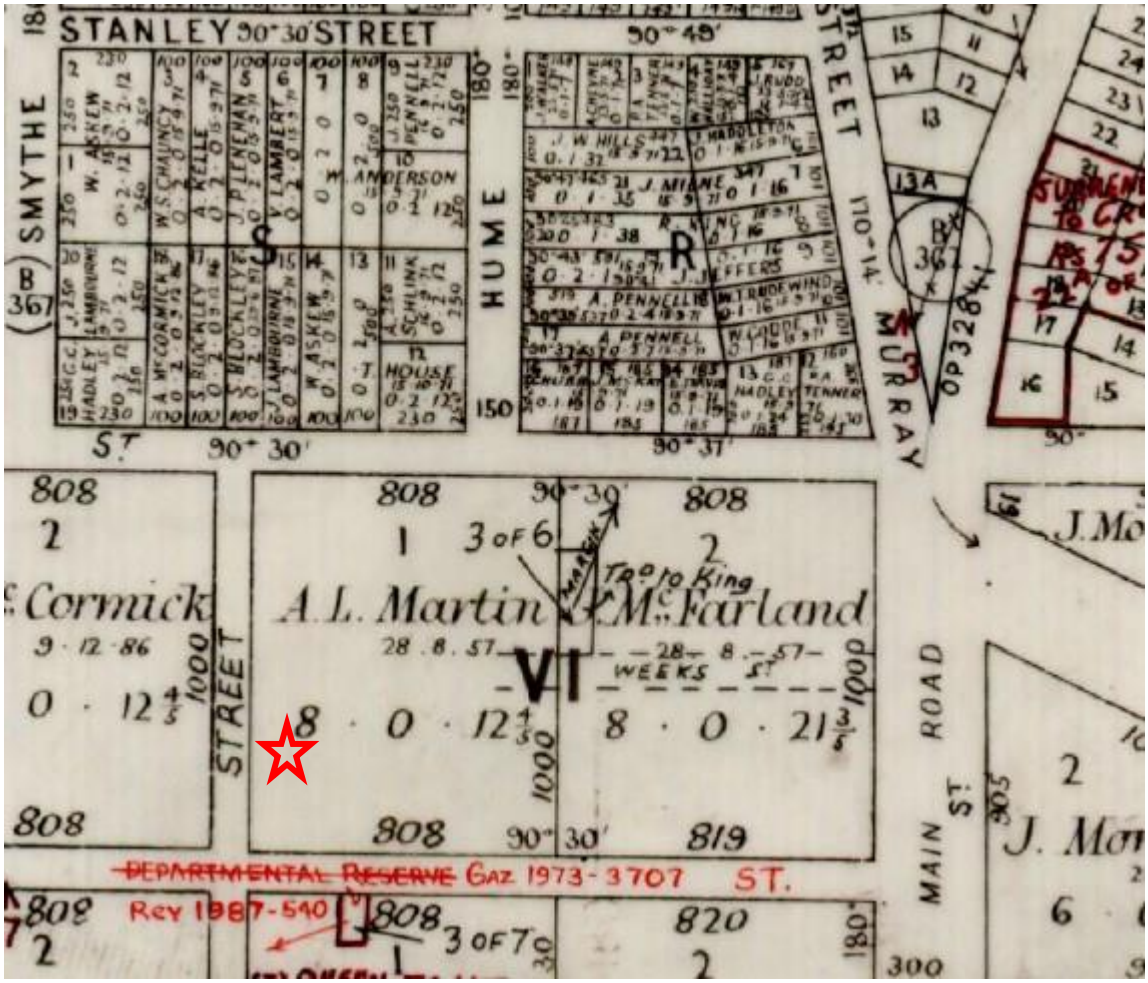
HISTORIC THEMES

6.5 Living in country towns

6.7 Making homes for Victorians

HISTORY

The subject site was originally part of a large parcel of land - Allotment 1, Section 6 (Wodonga Township Plan). It comprised over 8 acres and was acquired by A L Martin in August 1857. Section 6 (which included only two similarly larger allotments) was bound by William Street to the west, Woodland Street to the south, Beechworth Road to the east, and Lawrence Street to the north.



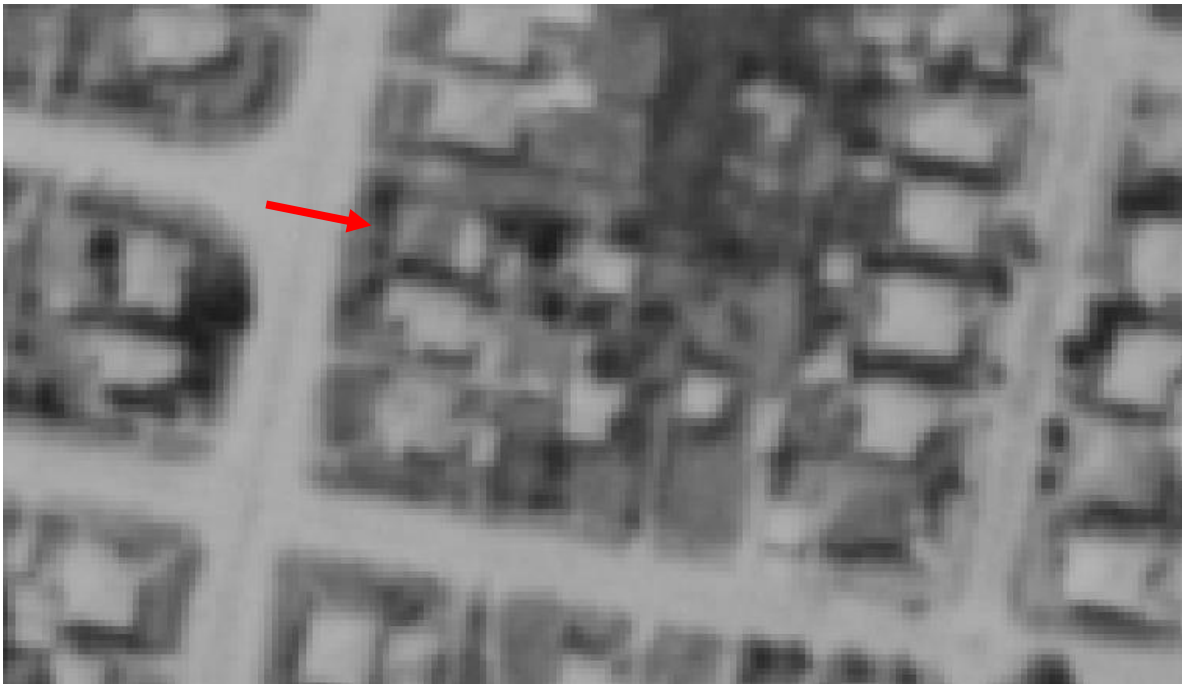
Wodonga township plan, showing approximate location of the subject site (W308-Sheet 4, Landata)

By 1899, subdivision of Allotment 1, Section 6 had been undertaken but no house was identified in the rate books. A house was first listed on Allotment 1 in 1900 under the ownership of Jane Hamilton, nurse. She retained it at least until 1905 (rate books). This likely relates to the subject site. Land in the western half of this allotment was subject to a Common Law title until recently and so the difficult to research (TP9093E).

Jane was married to Robert Caldwell Hamilton, who died in August 1912 in his 81st year (W and T S). She followed four years later in August 1916 in her 73rd year (W and T S).

The subject site has been known in the local community as being the home of the Cook family. While not listed in the 1938 Electoral Roll, Alma and William Cook are listed in the 1949 Electoral Roll. A Benjamin Cook is recorded as the owner in the 1940-1945 rates records. Cardwell Court which runs east west on the northern boundary of the existing residence is named after Marie Cardwell who was a daughter of Benjamin Cook. Archival records indicate that Benjamin Cook still resided at 14 William Street in 1957 (Commonwealth of Australia (1938/1949): Electoral Roll, Division of Indi, District of Benambra, Subdivision of Wodonga; Wodonga Historical Society Archives 'Cardwell' file; Wodonga Municipal Rates Records).

The following 1963 aerial shows the footprint of the house at that time.



1963 aerial with arrow indicating location of subject place. (CAD8, Run 2, Frame 269, Geoscience Australia)

COMPARISON

To date there are few turn of the century houses – either late 19th or early 20th century - included in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay.

Of the small group of Victorian period houses, two are much grander:

- HO3 (VHR- H381): De Kerilleau Homestead, Lawrence St, Wodonga. Built 1879, it is two storey masonry with a double level verandah.
- HO14: Glen Avon Homestead and barn, 392 Wodonga-Yackandandah Rd, Staghorn Flat. This late 19th/early 20th century single storey commodious house is clad in rebated boards and has distinctive cast iron detailing.

The other houses from the Victorian period are broadly comparative in scale though some are smaller. This group features a diverse array of construction types with only HO11 being of a similar scale/type however without a symmetrical façade:

- HO11: Brick residence, 11 Stanley Street, Wodonga. Late 1890s, red brick with hipped roof but has an asymmetrical façade with a projecting bay.
- HO12: Brick Cottage, Cookinburra Rd, Barnawartha North. Circa1890s, brick with gable roof.
- HO15: Torranceville, 8 Bank St, Wodonga. Built from 1869, a stone cottage with later brick sections.
- HO34: Stone Cottage, 41 Church St, Wodonga. Circa 1850s, stone walls (overpainted) with brick to the openings and a gable roof.
- HO38: Stoneleigh, 50 High St, Wodonga. Circa 1850s, walls of granite rubble with brick lintels to the openings and a hip roof.
- HO49: Stenzel Cottage, 665 Kiewa Valley Hwy, Baranduda. This circa 1882 gable roof house is constructed from wattle and daub.

There are fewer houses from the Federation period included in the Schedule. The group of three adjacent timber houses at 241, 243, 245 Beechworth Road (HO26, 27, 28) have prominent gambrel roofs and exposed rafter ends typical of the Federation period but also have symmetrical facades with bullnose profile verandahs.

Within the Lawrence Street Precinct HO48), there are a few Victorian period (or early Federation period) buildings of a similar scale or with a symmetrical façade. 152 Lawrence Street is the only brick example with a hip roof however its porch is much altered. Other examples are clad in weatherboards and lack the level of decorative cast iron evident at the subject place (140 and 153 Lawrence Street, 5 Ethel Street).

RECOMMENDATIONS

EXTENT OF LISTING

It is recommended that the *Wombolano* at 14 William Street, Wodonga is included in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Wodonga Planning Scheme.

The extent of the heritage overlay should include the parcel of land (Lot 1/TP9093) on which the house is located as outlined below.



(Nearmap, 22 June 2024)

PLANNING SCHEME CONTROLS

Planning Controls	Y/N
External Paint Controls Apply?	N
Internal Alteration Controls Apply?	N
Tree Controls Apply?	N
Solar Energy System Controls?	Y
Outbuildings or Fences Not Exempt Under Clause 43.01-4?	N
Included on the Victorian Heritage Register Under the Heritage Act 2017?	N
Prohibited Uses Permitted?	Y
Aboriginal Heritage Place?	N

REFERENCES

Commonwealth of Australia (1938/1949): Electoral Roll, Division of Indi, District of Benambra, Subdivision of Wodonga

Title Plan, TP9093E

Wodonga Historical Society Archives 'Cardwell' file

Wodonga Municipal Rates Records

1912, 'Death', *Wodonga and Towong Sentinel*, 16 August 1912, p2

1916, 'Death', *Wodonga and Towong Sentinel*, 11 August 1916, p3