

BUILDING TITLE: Marathon **BUILDING ADDRESS:** 7 Gray St
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: A || B || C |X| D || E || **BUILDING TYPE:** detached house
DESIGNATION: HBR Reg No File # AHC File # NT File # Class || Rec ||
CONSERVATION AREA: Church Hill **LEVEL OF STREETScape SIGNIFICANCE:** 1 || 2 |X| 3 ||
STYLE: late Victorian

CONSTRUCTION DATE & ALTERATIONS:

1. c1866 or earlier
2. 1878 (doubled in size)
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Sources:

1. *Hamilton Rate Book 1866*, No. 272.
2. *Ibid.*, 1878, No. 300.

MATERIALS:

Roof: corrugated iron
Walls: cement rendered brick
Dressings: cement render
Plinth: bluestone
Windows: timber double hung sash
Paving: gravel path
Other: verandah floor unglazed
terra cotta tiles

SURVEY DATE: 25/2/91 **NEG FILE:** 1/11-12 **REPORTER:** tfh

INTEGRITY: E |X| G || F || P || **NOTABLE FEATURES:** non-matching gables

CONDITION: E || G |X| F || P ||

SIGNIFICANCE: Notable for its occupants and owners, the house is a modest example of the Italianate style and uses an early plan lay-out. The *Brachychiton acerifolius*, Illawarra Flame tree in the front garden is notable.

ALTERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

Appropriate:	Rec	Inappropriate:	Rec
		missing cast iron	O
		unsympathetic garage	S

O=reinstate original design S=reinstate sympathetic alternative R=remove RAM=remove by approved method

SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/TENANTS:	ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS:	TITLE:	
		CA	Sect
B C Williams		17 pt18/19	15B
Land to: J Walpole (lot 17), R Churchyard (18)			
J.Green (19) (17/10/61)			
Thomas Ross, schoolteacher (1st owner), Richard Heath, publican (1870s owner), George Dilnot, auctioneer (1880s and Western City Brewing Co., Victoria Bee Co.) and John Stewart, auctioneer and Mayor (1900s).			
COUNCIL COMPUTER # 11547.0013	MORE INFO OVER	HAMDS009	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Marathon
7 Gray Street

This house has local significance especially for its historical associations with a number of important early Hamiltonians including Thomas Ross, schoolteacher, Richard Heath (c1815-1895), publican, in the 1870s; and the auctioneers George Dilnot (1852-1892) in the late 1880s, and John Stewart (1868-1944) in the 1900s. The earliest portion of the building may date from 1866 or earlier when Ross owned and occupied a small house on the site. ⁽ⁱ⁾ During Richard Heath's owner/occupancy from 1877 to c1885, the brick house had additions which may have doubled its size. ⁽ⁱⁱ⁾ Heath, who managed Hamilton's first hotel, the Grange Inn, from 1854-1864 was one of the first municipal councillors in 1859. ⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾ Dilnot, who became the new owner in the late 1880s, floated a Western City Brewing Co. and managed it until his death, and also in 1888 he floated the Victoria Bee Co., which established an apiary at Dunkeld. ^(iv) John Stewart, as well as being a local auctioneer and property owner, was Mayor of Hamilton from 1901-1914. ^(v)

The final style of the house can be described as Italianate, the most common for domestic buildings during this period and this is a typical and sober example. Little now survives of the original garden however the *Brachychiton acerifloius*, Illawarra Flame tree in front of the house indicates an early garden form.

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Evolution of the Town: 1860s, 1870s, 1880s, 1900s.
Notable men and women:
Secondary Industry: Breweries
Tertiary Industry: Hotels Auctioneers
Education:
Local Government:

REFERENCES

Hamilton Rate Books
Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, 1984.

FOOTNOTES

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- ⁱ *Hamilton Rate Book 1866*, No. 272 (NAV 12 pounds), 1869, No. 274 (NAV 24 pounds).
ⁱⁱ *Ibid.*, 1878, No. 300 (brick house, additions in progress, NAV 45 pounds).
ⁱⁱⁱ *Garden, Don, Hamilton*, pp 41, 68, 83.
^{iv} *Ibid.*, p 132.
^v *Ibid.*, pp 130, 162, 173.