

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: DOCTOR'S RESIDENCE

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: 2 Monroe Street BRANXHOLME

STUDY NUMBER: 213

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PRECINCT: Branxholme

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

ALLOTMENT: 1 **SECTION:** 11 **PARISH:** PARISH OF BRANXHOLME

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 473 J; VicRoads 233 S3; located in the south-west corner of Monroe and Cox Streets on the northern side of the township of Branxholme

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



Doctor's Residence (former), Monroe Street, Branxholme.

Image Date: 26/03/02

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the house but excluding the interiors and all of the land.

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The house is a conventional single storey, symmetrical, weatherboard structure with double hung double sash windows on either side of the standard front door. The hipped roof is corrugated iron. There is a notable circular motif in the timber frieze of the verandah. It is a very chaste example of the Italianate style. There is a new chimney on north side.

HISTORY:

No name appears on the 'Township of Branxholme' plan, published in 1858, for allotment 1 of section 11, although T. E. Richardson and members of the Best family who ran the Traveller's Arms Hotel already owned blocks opposite. From its style, form and materials, the house appears to date from the later 1860s, a time of some prosperity in Branxholme. It is said to have been occupied by one of the town's doctors and is fine enough to have been the home of a professional person. This is all the more likely because Monroe Street, named after one of the owners of the Bassett run, was the best street in the town and included the finest buildings.

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 3 Developing local, regional and national economies
3.26 Providing health services
3.26.1 providing medical and dental health services

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life
8.12 Living in and around Australian homes
8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

CONDITION:

fair condition and integrity (with parts of verandah frieze missing)

INTEGRITY:

High degree of integrity

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

The single storey weatherboard house at 2 Monroe Street, Branxholme was built in the late nineteenth century and is a chaste but conventional example of its type. The detailing of the fenestration and verandah suggest both an affluent owner and a professional designer. The house was at one time occupied by one of the town's doctors. It was possibly designed by the architect, James Henry Fox of Hamilton, who, in the early 1860s, was responsible for the nearby St Andrews Presbyterian church and manse and, in 1864, the front wing of William Howarth's house, further south along Monroe Street. The house is in fair condition and remains substantially intact with a high degree of integrity externally.

How is it significant?

The house at 2 Monroe Street, Branxholme is of historical and architectural significance to the township of Branxholme and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The house at 2 Monroe Street, Branxholme is of historical significance for demonstrating the way of life of a town house in Branxholme. It is of architectural significance as a particularly fine example of its type and, possibly, as the work of Hamilton architect, James Henry Fox.

COMPARISON:

HERITAGE PLACE

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071 Nigretta, 39 Winter Street, Coleraine
211 St Andrews Presbyterian Manse (Former), Monroe Street, Branxholme
306 Private Hospital (Former), Bell Street, Glenthompson
236 Dr Dickenson's Residence, 37 Cobb Street, Penshurst
275 St Martin's Private Hospital (Former), 89 Cobb Street, Penshurst

ASSESSED BY: AEN and TFH

ASSESSMENT DATE:

10-Dec-03

EXISTING LISTINGS:

HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR Include in RNE Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

REFERENCES:

Author	Title	Year	Page
Agnes V. Walter	Branxholme 1843-1973	1973	