

SEMI-DETACHED DWELLINGS, 70-72 MARY ST HIGHGATE



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Semi-Detached Dwellings, 70-72 Mary St
Other names	Alisa Craig Mount View
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	18081
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 12 Sep 2006

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	70-72 Mary St
Locality	Highgate
Survey	LOT: 1 - 2 STR: 6700
Vol/folio	1535/967 - 968
Reserve	—

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of significance	Moderate Contributes to the heritage of the locality. Has some altered or modified elements, not necessarily detracting from the overall significance of the place.
Management category	Category 3 Conservation of the place is desirable. Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place and retain original fabric where feasible.
Statement of significance	<p>This duplex pair are a fine representative example of a Federation Italianate residences and makes a substantial contribution to the streetscape.</p> <p>The place is a good, intact representative example of cottages built north of the original townsite of Perth during the Western Australian Gold Boom, reflecting the sudden increase in population in Western Australia and the resulting rapid expansion of residential accommodation</p> <p>This place is valued by the community for the continuity of its presence in the streetscape which contributes to the community sense of place.</p>

PLACE USE	
Original use	Residential: Conjoined Residence
Current use	Residential: Conjoined Residence
Other use	

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Construction date	1928, 1942 – 43, 1962, 2008 – 10.
Walls	Painted Brick
Roof	Corrugated Metal sheeting
Architectural Style	Federation Italianate
Physical description	<p>The single storey mirrored semi-detached pair are of brick construction. The facades have been painted in their entirety. The main roofs are not visible. The front verandahs have bullnose roofs spanning between the common walls.</p> <p>The parapets are richly detailed above cornice mouldings and are topped with semi circular richly detailed pediments. Included in the parapets are the date: 1898 and the name of each place in block letters.</p> <p>The places bear resemblance to the terraces of East Fremantle designed by E R Hitchcock, an eastern states architect who came to Western Australia at the time of the Gold Boom. Medium height brick walls- painted. Small garden setbacks.</p>
Condition	Good
Integrity	High
Authenticity	High

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In 1892, land in Highgate Hill (part of the Mount Heart Estate) was acquired by Catholic Bishop Matthew Gibney. The land was subdivided into a 2-acre site for a church and school (Alacoque Square) and 79 residential lots. The land was acquired by Bishop Gibney for a very moderate sum considering its market value, and it has been suggested that he and developer Forrest had a prior arrangement. Mary Street was part of this subdivision and by 1896 the majority of the lots in the estate had been sold to prominent Perth families.

Bishop Gibney was born and educated in Ireland and appointed as Bishop of Perth on 1 November 1886. He succeeded to this position upon the death of Bishop Griver, at time when there was a great deal of work required. The Western Australian Gold Rushes had attracted large numbers of Roman Catholic immigrants to WA and new churches, schools and hospitals were required plus priests, teachers and medical staff. This led to the arrival of religious orders in WA and to a major building program, which included the subdivision of Mount Heart Estate and the subsequent construction of the Sacred Heart group of buildings.

The semi-detached pair at No. 70-72 Mary Street was built in 1898 on the northern side of the street. The date is written on the pediment, along with the names 'Ailsa Craig' and 'Mount View'. It has been suggested that the residences were built by a homesick Scot.

A laneway was constructed at the rear with access from Vincent Street (on an angle) which intersected with one running also from Vincent Street to Mary Street, but at a right angle. Many of the subdivisions at that time were planned with laneways to provide access to the rear for the Perth City Council's night cart and rubbish removals.

The City of Perth rate books for 1902 list John Moss, contractor, as the resident of No. 70. At that time the annual rateable value of £120. In the 1905 Wises' Post Office Directories they were listed as No. 62-64 and were occupied by William Beaumont and Ernest Solomon. The previous year there were no numbers given but Ernest Solomon was listed as a resident and next to him (possibly at No. 70) was Francis Johnstone.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In 1915, Walter G. Dorney (No. 70) and Frederick Tublin (No. 72) were in residence.

The 1941, rate books indicate that both residences were owned by Septimus Sydney Smith and in 1949, the last year the Directories were printed, the residents were John H. Greer (No. 70) and Mrs Winnifred A. Jacques (No. 72).

Aerial photographs from the mid 20th century demonstrate that there have been minimal changes to the cottages since then apart from reroofing and a major addition to the rear of 72 Mary Street.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Historic theme	Peopling WA: Demographic development Cultural Life: Domestic Life	
Associations		
Sources	Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006 Landgate Aerial photographs 1953-2024.	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

