

DUPLEX, 395-397 WILLIAM ST, PERTH



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Duplex, 395-397 William St
Other names	
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	18070
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 12 Sep 2006

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	395-397 William St
Locality	Perth
Survey	LOT: 28 D/P: 613
Vol/folio	1888/202
Reserve	—

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of significance	<p>Some</p> <p>Lower degree of integrity/authenticity but contributes to the heritage of the locality.</p>
Management category	<p>Category 4</p> <p>Retain elements of the place where feasible. Photographically record prior to major development or demolition.</p>
Statement of significance	<p>The place has some aesthetic value for the remaining evidence of its original construction in the Federation Georgian style and as a landmark in the streetscape because it is one of the few two storey buildings in the vicinity.</p> <p>The place reflects the expansion and development of residential and commercial buildings on the city fringes during the rapid population increase of the 1890's gold boom and the early years of the twentieth century.</p> <p>The place has historic value for its association with the Parrant family who provided dry cleaning and dying services to the community through the first half of the 20th century.</p> <p>The 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	Residence: Conjoined Residence
Current use	Commercial: Office Commercial: Retail
Other use	

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Construction date	c1899
Walls	Painted brick
Roof	Corrugated Metal sheeting
Architectural Style	Federation Georgian
Physical description	<p>The two storey painted brick building has a symmetrical frontage. It was originally constructed as a residential duplex. One of the original entrances has been removed and the entry blocked up in the 1960s. The roof is a U configuration with a hipped presentation to the street. Central on the frontage is an intrusive fan shaped awning supported on metal piers and clad with corrugated transparent sheeting.</p> <p>The windows on the frontage are typically in separated pairs of narrow double hung sashes. They are located towards the outer sides of the front façade, in vertical alignment on both floor levels. Evidence on the upper storey shows where original openings between the two sets of paired windows lead originally onto the first floor verandah, and which have been bricked up.</p>
Condition	Good
Integrity	Moderate
Authenticity	Moderate

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The bed of Lake Thomson was used for farming and market gardening until the 1880s, when parcels of the land were sold off. One section of the land was subdivided by B. H (Harry) Anstey in 1892, whereby seven separate parcels of land were amalgamated and then developed as a 9.1 hectare residential subdivision. William (Hutt) Street was continued through the subdivision north of Newcastle Street.

The semi-detached pair at Nos. 395-397 William Street is part of the development on the reclaimed bed of Lake Thomson. They appear on the 1900 PWD Sewerage Plan but not the 1897 series. The 1900 plans show a verandah extending across the front of the dwellings. One of the subject dwellings is first listed as No. 459 in the Wise's Post Office Directories in 1905 which was occupied by Victoria Trelour, hairdresser. This section of William Street was numbered south-north from No. 443 to No. 485 before 1909 and the numbers were re-allocated since then. The subject dwelling at No. 459 is renumbered as No. 395 in 1909, with the occupant Mrs. Annie Wilson. No. 397 first appeared in 1910 with Thomas A. Kerr as the resident.

In 1915, No. 395 was occupied by William Thomas. There was no entry for No. 397 at this year. A Sewerage Plan dated 1951 shows that the pair of subject dwellings has an identical configuration, both feature a verandah ran the full width of the street frontage and a sink located at the rear of the dwelling.

In the 1961, a Building Licence application was submitted to the Perth City Council for conversion from "existing dwelling into dry cleaning", comprising both shop and office space. The licence was issued to 'Parrants & Industrial Dry Cleaners'. The conversion proposed removal of the existing verandah, and the ground-floor windows to the façade, replacing them large glass sliding doors. Upstairs, new openings were proposed along the central common wall and both doors to the upper floor leading onto the verandah were bricked up, as well as the southern ground-floor entry.

There is a record for an earlier Building Licence 506/26 issued in 1926 to 'Parrants Ltd' suggesting that this business might have used or owned the building from the 1920s through to the 1960s. This is likely to be the business of dyer George Parrant who was part of a family business which has operated in Perth from the late 19th century.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In the early 2000s, until about 2005, the place operated as a brothel.
 As of 2024 the two business occupying the subject place are a travel agency, Grand City Travel & Tour, and Chinese supermarket, Pure Blue.
 Aerial photographs from the mid 20th century onwards indicate that the form and extent of the subject site have changed little since that time, with the exception of a flat semi-circular verandah roof added to the front of the building around 2010.

Historic theme	Peopling WA: Demographic Development Cultural Life: Domestic Life Economy: Commerce Economy: Manufacturing and Secondary Industry	
Associations	Victoria Trelour George Parrant	First listed occupant Owner and occupant
Sources	Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006 Landgate Aerial photographs 1953-2024.	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

