

Place name House **Survey Date:** 04/07/2004
Other name- **Id:** 1229
Street 197 Raglan Street **Last Update** 04/10/2004
Locality Sale **Postcode**
Official Locality **Property No**
Local Government Area Wellington Shire
Precinct: Not in precinct
Easting **Northing**
Map
Workshop number **Workshop votes**
Field survey number **Community priority**
Designer **Builder** Dennis Williamson
Ownership Private **Built Date** 1955 **Change Date**

Description Diagonally positioned on a corner block, this house features an unusual combination of Inter-war design ideas with a predominance of English Cottage motifs. Particularly fine architectural detailing is shown in the brickwork which includes herringbone patterns in the gable end and the fence. The form of the house is dominated by a large gable roof punctuated by two twisted brick chimneys. The gable end contains a half-timbered design with thick timber frame built into the brickwork. The arch at the point of entry is typical of designs of this style by prominent architects such as Rodney Alsop whose work in Melbourne's wealthier suburbs probably had a wide influence on domestic architecture throughout Victoria in the Inter-war years.

A larger example of Alsop's work of this genre is Glenleith, 5 Towers Road, Toorak.(1) The windows are typical 1940s metal framed window combinations of fixed and casement panes, which seem unusual in this design and are probably replacements of earlier timber frames.

Several established exotic species surround the house, including a cedar, Jacaranda and elm. The garage, which may be later, is also harmonious in design. Since 1994, one of the large trees in the front garden has been removed. Cedar remains a dominant feature.

The house is in excellent condition and appears largely intact to original design. The fence, garage and garden elements are also intact.

REFERENCE

(1) Alsop, D., 'Rodney Alsop', Student thesis, Dept. Architecture, University of Melbourne.

Feature	Style	Wall Materials	Roof Materials
House	Inter-War	Brick	Clay tile

Condition Excellent **Integrity** Intact

None apparent	
Residential	Building Garden Tree(s)

National Themes	Local Themes
	7. BUILDING SETTLEMENTS & TOW 7.1 Ports

History The house and front fence at 197 Raglan Street, Sale was constructed in 1955 by master bricklayer, Dennis Williamson, as his own residence (1). The design came from an English trade magazine - it was a 'design of the month'. Almost all materials used for this house came from Breheny's Brewery, an early landmark building in York Street, Sale. Breheny's were well known brewers throughout Australia. This building was demolished by Dennis Williamson in 1954 (2).

This house showcased the bricklaying skills of DF Williamson, who built a number of significant structures in post-WWII Sale, and is regarded locally as 'the best bricklayer of his time', the 'twisted' chimneys and herringbone pattern being his 'trademarks'. Williamson served a seven-year apprenticeship in Nottinghamshire in the north of

England, before emigrating to Australia in 1948 as a '£10 pom'. That same year Williamson came by train to Sale where his relatives and sponsors, the Cawthorns, lived. He met Edgar Bailey, who suggested that he would find work if he contacted Harry Magnuson. Magnuson was putting a second storey on the Nurses Home of the Gippsland Base Hospital. Williamson worked there and witnessed the death of builder's assistant Loughnan, who fell from scaffolding (3).

Williamson paid £180 for this block of land, which was one of 32 lots created by a 1951 subdivision of Lots 56 & 57. The Williamsons sold the 'twisted chimneys' house around 1960 to Mr Doubleday, for £6000 (4).

Some examples of other houses in Sale constructed by Dennis Williamson included:

- 143 Macalister Street (former numbering 59A), (Refer to separate citation in this Study), between Dundas and Barkly Streets, cream brick house, round windows, 'bull's eye' window with swan patterned into glass, stone fence, 'twisted' brick verandah support post. The house was built for the manager of Sharp's store, and opposite what was then Les Treloar's house (another Sale businessman). It was finished in 1956. Now owned by Ray Fox.
- Raglan Street, opposite the 'twisted chimneys' house. This house has a wide timber and render gable end facing the street. (Part Lot 3 Section 80, built 1951)
- Barkly Street - cream brick veneer house, set at an angle to the street, built for Ivan Howlett, a policeman.
- 165 Stawell Street (previous number 75A), a cream brick house, angled on the block, with a 'waterfall' chimney. Large, old magnolia tree out the front.

SOURCES

(1) Research by Peter and Anne Synan, who cite their own archive as well as: Borough of Sale Rate Book entries; Sale Building Permits Register, 21.9.1954 (Demolition of Brewery) & 12.8.1955 (Construction of house); and Certificate of Title.

(2) Interview with Dennis Williamson 4 March 2006 by Peter Synan

(3) *ibid*

(4) *ibid*

Period	Associations
	Dennis Williamson

Heritage Protections Register	Reference	Zoning	Status
Planning Scheme	x		Recommended

National Estate

Research Required

Recommendations

Fieldwork priority?

Stage 1 Ranking Assessed: Sale Heritage Stu **Stage 2 priority** Planning Scheme: Individua

Final Ranking Local significance **Final Recommendation**

Statement of significance This house and front fence, constructed in 1955 by Dennis Williamson, and associated garden are of local historic and aesthetic significance to Wellington Shire. Historically, the house is significant for its strong associations with master bricklayer, Dennis Williamson, as an example of his residential work that was also his own residence. Aesthetically, the house and fence are fine examples of the craftsman skills of Williamson, and are amongst the best examples of post-WWII design in Sale. The garden with mature exotic trees and shrubs is also of note and provides an appropriate setting (RNE criteria E.1, F.1 & H.1)

Extent of designation

Informant

Notes

Follow up

Bibliography Context Pty Ltd, (1994), City of Sale Heritage Study
Context Pty Ltd, (2004), Wellington Heritage Study: Sale Review

Raglan Street 0197, ID 1229.jpg

Context

01/01/1994



UpdateRaglan St 0197, ID1229i.JPG

Geoff Neville

05/06/2006



UpdateRaglan St 0197, ID1229ii.JPG

Geoff Neville

05/06/2006

