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Name: Former Station Master's House
Status: Permanently Registered
Tier: State

THR ID Number: 10928
Municipality: Central Coast Council
Date Listed: 18/04/2007

Location Addresses

46 MAIN RD, PENGUIN 7316 TAS

Title References

39985/8

Property Id

7638218



Untitled

Untitled

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Setting: 46 Main Road Penguin, the former Railway Station Master's House and now a converted Playcentre, sits on a small flat block beside the Penguin Railway Station at 44 Main Road. Unlike the Railway Station, the Station Master's House faces Main Road, where it overlooks the Esplanade reserve and has expansive views of Penguin Beach up to Beecraft Point. The building is set back behind a small yard enclosed by a modern post and rail fence, whilst the yard includes a modern disabled access ramp and fenced children's play area.

Description: The main building is a fine example of a moderately-sized single storey Federation cottage of weatherboard construction. The front facade includes a full width verandah which, somewhat unusually, features walled ends and is covered by the main roof form rather than a separate skillion roof. It is likely that this building was a standard government/railways design of the period. General stylistic features demonstrated include steep pitch half-gabled roof, the overall building form and layout of doors and windows, layout form and detailing of external joinery including and brick chimney details. The external form of the Station Masters House appears to be predominantly intact. Interior alterations are anticipated from its recent use as a child care facility. The front yard includes a number of late C20th alterations (of a reversible nature) including the installation of a disabled access ramp, erection of a front fence of brick piers and timber railings, and erection of a steel and wire mesh fence on the eastern side. An early gabled outbuilding is visible immediately behind the house, which was possibly a detached kitchen or washhouse. Lesser sheds of uncertain origin are visible also to the rear.

History: The land parcel known as 46 Main Road Penguin was originally granted to Australian National Railways Commission and Part of Lots 37544 and 37545 Granted to The Warden Councillors and Electors of the Municipality of Penguin. The Station Master's House was built in 1901. Mr John W Thomas was the first Station Master, followed by W Whittle and EJ Huxtable in 1918. Garn Gower was the last Station Master who was also well known as the unofficial barber during the 1950s and 60s, he cut the local's hair in the a laundry outbuilding at the rear each Sunday morning for two shillings. The building was purchased by the Penguin Council in 1977 and leased to the Penguin Play Group who continue to occupy the building and grounds. [2007] (Buildings past and present Penguin Main Road :2007, p. 7.).

Statement of Significance: (non-statutory summary)
No Statement is provided for places listed prior to 2007

Significance:

The Heritage Council may enter a place in the Heritage Register if it meets one or more of the following criteria from the Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995:

a) The place is important to the course or pattern of Tasmania's history.

The former Station Master's House at 46 Main Road, Penguin is of historic cultural heritage significance in demonstrating the evolutionary pattern of the Central Coast district. Constructed as purpose built staff accommodation directly beside the Railway Station, the place reflects the period requirement for the Master to be readily available to provide round-the-clock service and security to the Railway Station and its associated goods handling area.

b) The place possesses uncommon or rare aspects of Tasmania's history.**c) The place has the potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Tasmania's history.****d) The place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of place in Tasmania's history.**

46 Main Rd Penguin is of historic cultural heritage significance because it is important as a representative house in demonstrating the characteristics of a broader class of cultural places. Through its form, material and detailing, it has the ability to demonstrate the principal and typical characteristics of modest Federation house, whilst the high degree of external integrity makes it a particularly fine example of a Station Master's house of the period. This value will be enhanced if the design proves to be a rare or particularly intact example of a standard Railways/government house design from the period.

e) The place is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement.**f) The place has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social or spiritual reasons.****g) The place has a special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Tasmania's history.****h) The place is important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.**

PLEASE NOTE This data sheet is intended to provide sufficient information and justification for listing the place on the Heritage Register. Under the legislation, only one of the criteria needs to be met. The data sheet is not intended to be a comprehensive inventory of the heritage values of the place, there may be other heritage values of interest to the Heritage Council not currently acknowledged.