

AD 2001 Ashfield Heritage Study Review of Areas Zoned 2(a)

Name of Item House, 'Innisfail' Other Names	Reference N° 2 06 02																								
Address 113 Frederick Street, corner of John Street Locality Ashfield Postcode	Land Title																								
Item Type Building Group Name	Owner/s																								
Statement of Significance A simple, elegant and largely original Queen Anne style residence, with several unusual architectural elements e.g. symmetry walls laid in Flemish bond, mitred slate roof hips. The building date of origin, c 1905, makes it a fairly early Ashfield example of this style. The property reflects the growth of Ashfield in the Federation period.	Condition as observed from street — <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intact Minor alteration — <input type="checkbox"/> Sympathetic <input type="checkbox"/> Unsympathetic Major alteration — <input type="checkbox"/> Sympathetic <input type="checkbox"/> Unsympathetic Modifications —																								
Summary of Significance <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;"></th> <th style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">Rare</th> <th style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">Associative</th> <th style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">Representative</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Historic</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aesthetic</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scientific</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Rare	Associative	Representative	Historic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aesthetic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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Photo Roll N° 16	Frame N° 14	Survey Date 12/10/2001	Surveyed by RI
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Current Use House, 'Innisfail', 113 Frederick Street, Ashfield, corner of John Street	Reference N° 2 06 02
Heritage Listing Recommended	
Themes : Local Subdivision and consolidation	Themes : State Towns, suburbs and villages
<p>Historical Notes</p> <p>Land in this part of present-day Ashfield was originally part of Augustus Alt's 1810 grant of 280 acres, which by about 1820 had been incorporated into Joseph Underwood's large holding called the Ashfield Park Estate. In 1883, this corner portion was owned by a man named Henty.(1) Before World War I it had been subdivided. A map of that time indicates that this intersection was perceived as a future local shopping precinct.(2) In 1905 this allotment was owned by J H Wood, who sold it in that year to Mrs Jessie Clara McGrath. Its unimproved value was then £270. In 1906 Mrs J C McGrath was recorded as the owner of a house on the land.(3) <i>Sands Directory</i> lists the occupant as James McGrath, so it seems likely that McGrath had purchased the property in his wife's name, as was often done. By 1912 its valuation was £257 unimproved and £600 improved. It was named 'Innisfail' from 1913.(4) The valuation of the property increased to £598/£750 in 1920, to £835/£1,550 in 1922-25, to £900/£1,653 in 1926 and to £1,150/£1,950 in 1928. The owner-occupier was still given as Mrs Clara McGrath, but <i>Sands Directories</i> still listed the occupant as Jas McGrath until 1933. McGrath was listed as a plumber from 1930. It is of interest that the site was recorded with a frontage of 128 feet in 1928.(5)</p>	
<p>Physical Description</p> <p>Located on a corner site slightly wider and shallower than most, this is a simple and elegant Queen Anne style residence. It is unusual in having a symmetrical facade. The front walling is tuckpointed red-brown brick with liver brick dressings, and is laid in Flemish bond. The roof is slate, originally with the unusual treatment of mitred hips, though one hip has been capped with metal. The short ridge is trimmed with terra cotta with end terminals. From the centre of the roof there projects a wide, four-light gabled dormer window which, to judge by its unusual and subtle trim, including timber pilastration, is original. The door and window openings have three-ring segmental arches and moulded brick sills, and the doorcase has sidelights and curved toplights above a decorated transom. The flanking windows, set in slightly projecting bays, have casement sashes and fixed sidelights and transom-lights, the sidelights glazed with muffled glass as are the top panels of the four-panel front door. The three-bay verandah extends across the front, with turned posts and simple curvilinear valences. The chimneys are brick, with corbelled and moulded brick tops. The verandah has a tessellated tile floor with slate edging and the front steps have slate treads and tiled risers. The side wall facing John Street is laid in stretcher bond. The front fence is brick, apparently not contemporaneous with the house but of appropriate pier-and-panel design, and there is a picket front gate, inside which a concrete path leads to the verandah. The front garden is simple and has some mature plantings. An advertisement for the sale of the property in 2002 (<i>Courier</i>, 28/10/02) described the house as 'an Edwardian home full of charisma' and referred to its 'striking facade'</p>	
<p>Information Sources</p> <p>(1) <i>Ashfield Heritage Study 1993</i>, vol 1, pp 32, 36; Higinbotham & Robinson map of Ashfield, 1883. (2) H E C Robinson map of Ashfield North Ward, undated but about 1912. This map indicates that the allotments here had been excluded from Residential District No 1. (3) Rate Book, North Ward, 1905, No 307; 1906, No 401; in Ashfield Council Archives. (4) Rate Book, 1912, No 933, <i>ibid</i>; <i>Sands Directories</i>. (5) Valuer-General's records: 1920, No 1242; 1922-25, No 1301; 1926, No 1424 and 1928, No 1502.</p>	