

Ashfield Heritage Study Review of Areas Zoned 2(a)

Current Use Residence, 12 Hampden Street, Ashfield	Reference N° 1 08 05
Heritage Listing Recommended	
Themes : Local Subdivision and consolidation	Themes : State Towns, suburbs and villages
<p>Historical Notes</p> <p>The land in this area of Ashfield was originally a 1794 grant to Lieutenant John Piper. By about 1820 it had been incorporated into Robert Campbell's Canterbury Park Estate. Later this property became Lot 38 and part of Lot 37, of an unnamed estate, DP 263. In 1885 Robert Dougan, a butcher, and Mayor of Ashfield from 1889-90, bought the land from Mrs Annette Walter.(1) Most of the land thereabouts had previously been owned by Miss J Pym.(2) The first evidence of a house on the site is contained in the Rate Book for 1886 and in <i>Sands Directory</i> for the same year, indicating that the house was built in 1885. Dougan called it 'Strathearn' in 1889; he changed its name in 1895 to 'Rothwell' and back again to 'Strathearne' (also spelt 'Stratherne') in 1902.(3) In 1907 it was still the only house on that side of the street.(4) Robert Dougan was its first owner and occupant, and the house remained in the ownership of the Dougan family until the 1950s.</p>	
<p>Physical Description</p> <p>The only two-storey house and the sole Victorian-period house in the street. It is traditional Italianate in style, with vermiculated quoins. The main roof is now terra cotta tiles, but would originally have been slate. The walls are painted brick except for the facade, which is rendered and has round-arched ground-floor windows and doorcase, and segmental arches upstairs. The triple-faceted hipped side bay has a three-light window on each floor and a faceted roof. The large chimney has a corniced top with four terra cotta pots. The verandah balustrading is cast iron filigree of a design not registered until the early 1900s and then only by John Crase & Co, of Brisbane.(5) The upper windows leading to the verandah are full-height with double-hung sashes. The front fence is a particularly fine iron palisade on a sandstone base, with carved sandstone gateposts, but at the north end it has been altered to allow for car access to a garage in a rear outbuilding.</p> <p>Internally there are some handsome marble chimneypieces, while the ceilings and cornices in the ground floor rooms are made of delicate and beautiful pressed metal in patterns of the Inter-War period.</p>	
<p>Information Sources</p> <p>(1) Ashfield Heritage Study, 1993, vol 1, pp 32, 36; Rate Book, South Ward, 1885, No 951. (2) Rate Book, <i>ibid</i>, 1884, No 974. (3) Rate Book, <i>ibid</i>, 1886, No 1031; <i>Sands Directories</i>. (4) Rate Book, <i>ibid</i>, 1907, No 1116. (5) Brian Turner, <i>Australia's Iron Lace</i> (Allen & Unwin, 1985) pp 172, 190. Not all 19th-century iron patterns were registered and designs were often plagiarised.</p>	