

Ashfield Heritage Study Review of Areas Zoned 2(a)

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| Current Use House, 'Keninvie', 16 Wallace Street, Ashfield | Reference N° 2 23 01 |
| Heritage Listing Recommended | |
| Themes : Local Subdivision and consolidation | Themes : State Towns, suburbs and villages |
| <p>Historical Notes</p> <p>The Wallace Street area is part of Robert Campbell's 1820s Canterbury Estate, nearly all of which was south of Liverpool Road. Prior to that it had been a 1799 grant to William Faithful. The street was named in 1841, presumably to commemorate the Scottish patriot William Wallace.(1) Allotments in the present subdivision were put up for auction as the Fyle Estate No 2 in 1917. The Fyle subdivision was covered by a building covenant which provided that 'any building erected shall be constructed in a proper and workmanlike manner, to be of brick or stone or concrete, the roof to be of slate or tile, to cost not less than £450.'(2)</p> <p>This allotment, No 26, was one of six in Wallace Street (lots 21-26) purchased by A W Coleman, who made a Building Application in 1917 to erect on each site a 'four-room double-fronted brick cottage with brick foundation, Malthoid dampcourse, slate roof, estimated value £600'. The builder was C H Gunter.(3)</p> <p>Coleman sold the property in 1918 or 1919 to C Thomson, and in 1919 it first appeared in the Rate Book, with a valuation of £190 unimproved and £850. The occupant is recorded as Peter Thomson from 1918 until 1925, after which Mrs M Thomson occupied the property. However in the Valuer-General's records for 1928 the owner-occupier was Miss Christina Thomson, the house was named 'Keninvie', and the valuation of the property was £399 unimproved and £1,250 improved.(4)</p> | |
| <p>Physical Description</p> <p>This is one of eight adjacent single-storey dwellings of similar design, combining elements of Arts-and-Crafts and California Bungalow styles of architecture. The eight have differing details and most have been altered. The three examples recommended as heritage items, Nos 16, 18 and 20, are listed separately.</p> <p>Here, at No 16, the roof is medium-pitched and sheeted with terra cotta tiles, with a broad street-facing gable and a rear hipped form, and there is a side bay with a secondary gable, alongside which is the verandah. The walls are brown brick, the facade being in tuckpointed face work up to about a metre high, above which there is rendering with darker brick bands and quoin motifs. The verandah has stone-capped brick balustrading with piers surmounted by battered and smooth rendered tops, above which are paired timber posts supporting the verandah beams and an almost flat metal deck. The verandah beam has decorative bracketting. The floor is tessellated tiles. Windows are casements with leaded glazing, while transom lights have small panes of coloured glass. In this case the window in the side bay has four casement lights. Window and door openings have three-ring header segmental arch heads. The gables have panel-and-batten treatment and the main gable has a slightly flared apex of imbricated pressed metal in which is a louvred ventilator.</p> <p>The front path has tessellated tile paving with concrete kerbs, and near the entrance is flanked by urn or vase pedestals. There is no front fence. The front garden is simple, with some hedge plantings.</p> | |
| <p>Information Sources</p> <p>(1) <i>Ashfield Heritage Study 1993</i>, vol 1, p 36 and appendix G. (2) <i>Ashfield Heritage Study 1993</i>, vol 1, p 191; Subdivision Plan prepared for J A Somerville & Co. (3) Building Application register, 1917, Nos 3062-67, in Ashfield Council Archives. (4) Sands Directories; Rate Book, North Ward, 1919, No 2118 Valuer-General's records, North Ward, 1920, No 1964; <i>ibid</i>, 1928, No 2608; Ashfield Council Archives.</p> | |