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

Name of Item	House, 'W	Vallington'			Reference N°
Other Names					5 01 01
Address Locality	17 Armstr Ashfield	ong Street	Postcode	2131	Land Title
Item Type	Building				Owner/s
Group Name					
This is an exce combines feature one of two in A internal, erected It is also part of growth of a de	Condition as observed from street — Intact Minor alteration — Sympathetic Unsympathetic Major alteration — Sympathetic Unsympathetic Unsympathetic				
Summary of	• •				
Historic Aesthetic Social	are	Associative	Representativ	e	Modifications — The entrance now has a metal security door
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Frame N°

Photo Roll N°

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11-3-2004

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Ashfield Heritage Study Review of Areas Zoned 2(a)

Current Use	Reference N°
House, 'Wallington',17 Armstrong Street, Ashfield	5 01 01

Heritage Listing Recommended

Themes: Local Themes: State

Subdivision and consolidation Towns, suburbs and villages

Historical Notes

The white occupancy of this land began in 1796, as a grant of 100 acres made to the Rev Richard Johnson. By about 1820 it had been taken into Robert Campbell's extensive Canterbury Park Estate. After the breaking-up of Campbell's holding, this portion came into the ownership of R C Close, after which further subdivision occurred. A house called 'Ellourie' was standing on Close's land in 1926. In that year its owner was Mrs Mary Allen, who subdivided part of her site into six allotments, three facing Armstrong Street and three facing Holden Street. 'Illourie' was presumably then demolished. The subdivision was recorded in DP No 14786 and this particular site was Lot 5. In 1928 Mrs Allen sold all the allotments to A E Bryan, builder, of Ilford Street.(1)

In the same year Bryan lodged a building application for the erection of a six-room brick cottage on a brick foundation, with a slate dampcourse and tiled roof, having an estimated value of £950. The house was reported as completed in April 1928. A month later Bryan sold the property to Horace Frederick Quartley, director, for £1,675. He occupied it until 1943, when it passed to the executrix of his estate, Mrs Armenia Quartley.(2)

It is of interest that Bryan was the owner/developer of the estate bearing his name and centred on Richmond Avenue, Ashfield. Here he built several houses including No 5, which is identical in design and detail with 17 Armstrong Street and is also a heritage item.(3)

Physical Description

This is one of two Ashfield houses identical in design and detail, the other being at No 5 Richmond Avenue. It displays an architectural idiom which combines elements of two styles, viz, Arts-and-Crafts and the California Bungalow. It is a single-storeyed brick building with a symmetrical facade composed as a broad, low-pitched and quarter-hipped gable, above flinty dark brown-blue brickwork, the walling elsewhere being common browns. The roof, hipped at the rear, is covered in slightly variegated terra cotta tiles and has exposed rafter feet at the sides. The gable is filled with a panel-and-batten treatment. A three-bay verandah extends across most of the front; it has low brick balustrade panels with rendered copings, between render-capped pedestals supporting stumpy Tuscan colonettes, which in turn support undecorated verandah beams and an almost-flat metal roof whose rafters and soffit boarding are exposed. The verandah floor, like the front path, is surfaced with tesselated tiles and has terrazzo steps with tiled risers. The central front door is in a small recess and is flanked by triple-light windows having surface-mounted joinery on brick corbels, with splayed cornices, delicately tapered architraves and leaded glass.

The front garden is simple, with a concrete-edged path leading from a brick-floored panel inside the gate. The brick pier-and-panel fence matches the house, and each panel has a single pipe rail. A concrete driveway ascends to a rear garage. The workmanship is fine and the condition is excellent.

It is understood that much of the original interior detailing remains intact.

Information Sources

- (1) Ashfield Heritage Study 1993, vol 1, pp 32, 36; Higinbotham & Robinson map of Ashfield, 1883; H E C Robinson map of Ashfield South Ward, undated but originating c 1912; Valuer-General's records, east ward (the ward was re-aligned later), 1926, No 16; all in Ashfield Council Archives. Bryan's name is also given as Bryant. The exact location of 'Illourie' is not known.
- (2) BA No 4820, 1928, in Ashfield Council Archives; Valuer-General's records, 1926 (sic) No 1870; 1943, No 27; ibid.
- (3) BA Nos 3945, 4071 for 1926; Nos 4262, 4263, 4488 for 1927; ibid.