



## Ashfield Heritage Study Review of Areas Zoned 2(a)

<b>Current Use</b> Residences, 17-19 Hampden Street, Ashfield	<b>Reference N°</b> 1 08 15
<b>Heritage Listing</b> Recommended	
<b>Themes : Local</b> Subdivision and consolidation	<b>Themes : State</b> Towns, suburbs and villages
<p><b>Historical Notes</b></p> <p>The land in this area of Ashfield was originally a 1794 grant to Lieutenant John Piper and by about 1820 had been incorporated into Robert Campbell's Canterbury Park Estate. This particular site became Lot 49 of an unnamed estate, DP 263, owned by G W Nicoll. This semi-detached pair and its neighbouring houses Nos 11A and 15 were all erected in 1907, on adjoining allotments, by Alex Mudie Allen (also spelt Allan), a Summer Hill contractor. Allen had built the substantial Italianate house 'Ormiston' in 1889 and also designed and built the former Methodist church (now Ella Community Centre) in Haberfield in 1908. Allen was very active in the first decade of the century providing mortgage finance on a large number of Haberfield properties. He was still working locally as a builder until 1927.(1) These houses, owned by the trustees for the Nicoll estate, were first noted, as vacant, in 1907.(2) In 1908 lots 47-49 (i.e. the houses now numbered 11A, 15 and 17-19) were owned by the Trustees of the late G W Nicoll, of Summer Hill. In that year they were each valued at £70 unimproved and £415 improved. The first occupier of No 17 was John Fox, in 1919. The first recorded occupant of No 19 was William Mackney, in 1920.(3) By 1928 the property had gone through several ownerships, from S F Payne to Edna Grey to John Baptiste de Lorenzo to Ellen May McCauley. None of the owners was an occupier.(4) The tenants of No 17 included John Edward Fox (1920-22) and Mrs M Atkinson (1924-33), while those of No 19 included William George Mackney (1920-28) and William Jones (to 1933).(5)</p>	
<p><b>Physical Description</b></p> <p>Nos 17 and 19 are a semi-detached mirror-image pair, similar in general character to Nos 11A and 15, in the Queen Anne/Arts-and-Crafts style of architecture. They are single-storey brick houses, each asymmetrical but joined to form a symmetrical whole, with tuckpointed face brick facade, common-brick walling elsewhere, and terra cotta tile roof with crenellated ridges. Arched entrances flank the party wall. The remaining brick chimneys have corbelled tops. The verandah posts are of turned timber and its floors are concrete.</p> <p>No 19 has been modified by removing timber decoration and replacing the verandah posts with inappropriate Corinthian columns, by altering the doorcase, by removing the chimneys and by facing the paving with 'pebblecrete'. No 19 also has a side driveway and a rear extension.</p>	
<p><b>Information Sources</b></p> <p>(1) For early history, see Ashfield Heritage Study, vol 1, pp 32, 36. Valuation Book, 1908; Pratten, 'Ormiston', in <i>Summer Hill</i> (ADHS, 1999), pp 109-113.</p> <p>(2) Rate Book, South Ward, 1907 Nos 1121-24.</p> <p>(3) Valuer General's records, South Ward, 1908-10, Nos 929-30; <i>Sands Directories</i>.</p> <p>(4) Valuer General's records, <i>ibid</i>, 1928, No 670.</p> <p>(5) <i>Sands Directories</i>.</p>	