

ASHFIELD HERITAGE STUDY

1991-1992

NAME	House		REFERENCE NO.	194
OTHER NAMES	Formerly TRURO		REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	
LOCALITY / SUBURB	Ashfield	POSTCODE	2131	
STREET ADDRESS	177 Norton Street			
MAP	REFERENCE			
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS/HISTORICAL NOTES - SEE OVER				
CATEGORY	SUB CATEGORY			
EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE				
Historic:	Rare	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Associative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aesthetic:	Rare	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Associative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social:	Rare	<input type="checkbox"/>	Associative	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scientific:	Rare	<input type="checkbox"/>	Associative	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	Rare	<input type="checkbox"/>	Associative	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE				
<p>* A rustic villa of most distinguished style, the most distinctive of its kind in the municipality.</p> <p>* One of two surviving elements of an interesting trio of residences in this style built over an unusually prolonged period.</p>				
BOUNDARY / IDENTIFICATION				
The property boundary				
SITE CONDITION				
Intact <input type="checkbox"/>				
Minor Alteration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Major Alteration <input type="checkbox"/>				
- Sympathetic <input type="checkbox"/>				
- Unsympathetic <input type="checkbox"/>				
Removed (site only) <input type="checkbox"/>				



PHOTOGRAPHS	DATE OF SURVEY
BandW ROLL 91-052-1	
COLOUR SLIDES ROLL	SURVEYOR
NEG NO. 22	RI/CHP
FRAME NO.	
STUDY TEAM: Richard Mackay, Robert Irving, Chris Pratten, Jill Sheppard, Stephen Harris	

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<p>HERITAGE LISTINGS</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Register of the National Estate (AHC) - Registered</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Register of the National Estate (AHC) - Interim</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Register of National Trust (NSW)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Within National Trust Conservation Area</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Register of Significant Twentieth Century Architecture (RAIA)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Department of Public Works Heritage and Conservation Register</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Council Register - Permanent Conservation Order</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Council Register - Interim Conservation Order</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Council Register - Section 130 Order</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Council Register - Nomination</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NSW Government Department Heritage Register (S170 Heritage Act)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Institution of Engineers (NSW) Heritage Register</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Regional Environmental Plan Heritage Schedule</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Environmental Plan Heritage Schedule</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>	<p>PERIOD</p> <p>Pre - 1800 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1800 - 1825 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1825 - 1850 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1851 - 1875 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1876 - 1900 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1901 - 1925 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1926 - 1950 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1951 - 1975 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Post - 1975 <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>REFERENCE NO. 194</p> <p>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: Begun 1888 completed 1895</p> <p>ARCHITECT / DESIGNER: John Wills</p> <p>BUILDER: John Wills</p>
<p>HISTORICAL THEMES:</p> <p>State Themes: A place to live. Emergence of building styles. Booms and busts.</p> <p>Local Themes: The village of Ashfield.</p>		
<p>HISTORICAL NOTES</p> <p>The builder of this house, John W. Wills, a clerk of works in the office of the Colonial Architect, purchased land between Liverpool Road and Norton Street in 1853, on which he subsequently built two houses, "Harlyn" (prior to 1872), and "Cornwall" (c.1882). In 1887 he purchased additional land, facing Norton Street, and Ashfield Council Rate Books shown that a house was erected on this block in 1888. It appears that the depression of 1893 delayed completion of the house, as the 1894 Rate Book notes the house as being "unfinished" and no occupier is shown until Charles Ritchie took up residence in 1900. The house, sometimes known as "Truro", remained in the ownership of descendants of John Wills until 1951. The claim by other authorities that the house dates from the 1860s or 1870s cannot be substantiated on the evidence examined. (See also 179 Norton Street) Sands' Directory first records the name "Truro" in 1915. (See also 179 Norton Street).</p>		
<p>INFORMATION SOURCES:</p> <p>Written: Ashfield 1871-1971.</p> <p>Oral: N. Peek, Title, Directory and Council Archive searches.</p> <p>Graphic: <u>Architecture of Victorian Sydney</u> (Herman), 1956.</p>		
<p>PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:</p> <p>Materials: Brick/stucco with imitation timber expressed frame. Timber decoration, slate main roofs with sheet metal trim.</p> <p>Exterior: Multi-gabled steep roofed house with upper storey rooms in the roof.</p> <p>Interior: Not yet seen. Said to have cedar boarded ceilings.</p> <p>Styles: Victorian Rustic Gothic.</p>		
<p>DESCRIPTION:</p> <p>A very picturesque Rustic Gothic dwelling whose mid-victorian style belies its attributed late Victorian date. It has a distinctive exterior treatment imitating exposed timber framing. Probably all of the bargeboards were once traceried, but now only the open timber porch has tracery. Its unusual bargeboards are double layered, fretted and carved. The spandrel above the porch doorway is also traceried. In the twin gables facing Norton street there is a two storeyed faceted bay window. The east gable has a 3 light window with a faceted zinc hood and delicately fretted valence. There are bullnose-roofed appendages one each side with round-headed windows. There is a small brick and gabled out building at the rear.</p>		
<p>MODIFICATION:</p> <p>Main barge treatments simplified. Unsympathetic mesh gates added.</p>		