

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

Name of Item	House, 'Maranui'	Reference N°	2 23 03
Other Names	'Devon', 1943; originally 'Woniora', 1893		
Address	19 Wallace Street	Land Title	
Locality	Ashfield	Postcode	
Item Type	Building	Owner/s	
Group Name			
Statement of Significance		Condition as observed from street —	
<p>This Victorian Free Classical house is a particularly early example to have survived in this part of Ashfield. Though externally altered, it is significant in having very fine detailing, particularly the interior decorative plaster cornices and later pressed metal ceilings, and some extremely interesting constructional work. The early carriage house, stable and feed loft building is also a rare survivor.</p>		<input type="checkbox"/> Intact	
		Minor alteration — <input type="checkbox"/> Sympathetic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsympathetic	
Summary of Significance		Major alteration —	
	Rare	Associative	Representative
Historic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aesthetic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Modifications —	
		The facade has been altered, particularly by the filling-in of the verandah. There are no chimneys.	



Photo Roll N° 25	Frame N° 10	Survey Date 14/12/2001	Surveyed by RI
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Current Use House, 'Maranui', 19 Wallace Street, Ashfield	Reference N° 2 23 03
Heritage Listing Recommended	
Themes : Local Subdivision and consolidation Boom years	Themes : State Towns, suburbs and villages
<p>Historical Notes</p> <p>The Wallace Street area is part of Robert Campbell's 1820s Canterbury Park 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) The house now No 19 was evidently one of the first three dwellings to be erected in it.</p> <p>Its site at that time was part of Lot 11 of an unnamed estate owned by Captain William Adams. The vacant land was sold in 1884 to Robert Hudson, for whom the house was then built. It was occupied by F W Hudson, a timber merchant.(2) By 1894 the property was occupied by Willoughby Devlin and was called 'Woniora.'(3) Properties were given street numbers in 1896 (they were changed to their present numbers in 1916).</p> <p>There were several changes of ownership and occupation until 1913, in which year the house was purchased and occupied by Frederick Richardson. It was he who gave the house the new name of 'Maranui'. In 1917 the valuation was recorded at £360 unimproved and £1,200 improved.(4) The next owner, from 1920, was Frederick T Bourne, and it appears that he changed the name to 'Devon' in 1943, at which time its valuation was £396 unimproved and, surprisingly, £1,100 improved.(5) In 1955, still called 'Devon', it was owned by bus driver Lawrence Harold and Leslie Alice Waterhouse, and its valuation had increased to £880 unimproved and £3,700 improved.(6)</p>	
<p>Physical Description</p> <p>This Victorian Free Classical-style house is one of the earliest dwellings to have been erected in this area. It has been changed externally, particularly by altering and enclosing the front verandah. Built characteristically with brick and stucco walls and a hipped slate roof with narrow eaves and lead dressings, its basic rectangular shape is supplemented by the usual ensemble of skillion-roofed spaces at the rear. The main hipped roof has impressive carpentry entirely in Douglas Fir (Oregon), while the front verandah and main hall floors are constructed in concrete, each displaying a slightly vaulted soffit form and permanent formwork also of Oregon. At the rear of the property, near the west side boundary, is a brick two-storey building which was once a carriage house and stable with feed storage on its top level; this is a rare survival in Ashfield.</p> <p>The interiors are of great interest and feature some high quality joinery and other detailing including a frieze screen differentiating the parlour and dining room spaces. The house was evidently renovated in the Federation period, for the the ceilings of the main rooms have very fine Victorian decorative plaster cornices, while the body panels and centres comprise equally fine pressed metal in the main rooms and panelled timber in the hall.</p> <p>The front fence is an iron palisade above a stone plinth, while the side fences comprise a distinctive Federation-period design having cast and wrought iron stanchions and chain mesh.</p>	
<p>Information Sources</p> <p>(1) <i>Ashfield Heritage Study 1993</i>, vol 1, p 36 and appendix G.</p> <p>(2) Higinbotham & Robinson map of Ashfield, 1883; Rate Book, North Ward, 1884, No 958, in Ashfield Council Archives; <i>Sands Directories</i> from 1882.</p> <p>(3) Rate Books, <i>ibid</i>, 1891, No 1009, and 1894, No 998.</p> <p>(4) Rate Book, <i>ibid</i>, 1917, No 1818; <i>Sands Directories</i>.</p> <p>(5) Rate Books and Valuer General's records, <i>ibid</i>: 1920, No 1976; 1922-25, No 2168; 1928, No 2621; and 1943, No 2783; <i>Sands Directories</i>.</p> <p>(6) Valuer General's records, 1955, No 2793, in Ashfield Council Archives.</p>	