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

Name of Item Other Names	House, 'Almaville'				Reference N° 1 03 05
Address Locality	21 Carlisle Ashfield	Street	Postcode		Land Title
Item Type Group Name	Building				Owner/s
A house of typical Queen Anne style characteristic of Ashfield's residential development in the Federation period. It has some remarkably original elements and details, including unusual tuckpointing and verandah design, some fine interiors, and a distinctive gable sunburst feature.					Condition as observed from street —  Intact  Minor alteration —  Sympathetic  Unsympathetic  Major alteration —  Sympathetic
Summary of Significance Rare Associative Representative					☐ Unsympathetic
Historic C Aesthetic C Social C Scientific C	rre	Associative	Representative		Modifications — Later stone veneer fence with welded steel gates. Front path and verandah floor are done with 'pebblecrete' finish.



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

Current Use

Reference N°

Residence, 21 Carlisle Street, Ashfield

1 03 05

Heritage Listing Recommended

Themes: Local Themes: State

Subdivision and consolidation Towns, suburbs and villages

#### **Historical Notes**

This site was originally part of John Piper's grant of 1794 and by about 1820 it had been incorporated into Robert Campbell's Canterbury Park Estate. This part was purchased by Hugh Carlisle and Carlisle Street was formed in about 1892. What is now No 21 was Lot 11 of the 1st subdivision, DP 2777, of the Carlisle Estate. No record has been found of a house on the site prior to 1908. In that year there are three references to this site. N° 961 describes a house on lots 11/12, value £198 unimproved and £473 improved, owned by Jas. McCleary. N°1882 shows John Jas McBride, printer, as owner of lot 12, valued £99 unimproved and £334 improved (the nature of the improvement is not specified). N°1881 shows Jason McCleary as owner of stables on lot 11, valued £99 unimproved and £139 improved.(1) The latter entry for lot 11 also notes a Sale Note of 1908 in which McCleary, a commercial traveller, of 16 Morris Street Summer Hill, purchased the land for £116/15/-. The name of the vendor is not noted. In the same entry is a Building Note from R H Collier, evidently the builder. These records indicate that R H Collier built the house for Jason McCleary in 1908. James W McCleary was the first occupant, listed in 1909, and the house was called 'Tambo'. In 1917 Richard H Hosking is recorded as the occupier, and he was followed by Mrs Clara A Nicol, who occupied the property from 1919 until at least 1933.(2) It seems that Mrs Nicol changed the name of the house to 'Almaville', for it was listed that way by the Valuer General in 1928, when it was valued at £370 unimproved and £1,150 improved.(3)

#### **Physical Description**

This is a most original residence in the Queen Anne mode of architecture, with several distinctive features. The usual motifs of the style can be seen, e.g., the L-shaped plan, tuckpointed bichromatic brick front, a street-facing gable projecting from a hipped terra-cotta-tiled roof, grouped casement windows with bullnose brick sills and some small panes of coloured glass, a bracketted window hood, a verandah with brick balustrading and timber decoration, marble front steps and a side driveway. But there are also unusual details such as the sunburst motif in the gable, the verandah post and eaves lines standing proud of the projecting gable, pinky-white tuckpointing in good order, a flat sheet metal window hood with scalloped edging, and roof tiles which are unglazed. Internally some of the rooms also have original decoration including panelled plaster ceilings and waratah motifs.

### **Information Sources**

- (1) Higinbotham & Robinson map, 1883; H E C Robinson map, n d. Rate Books and other documents in Ashfield Council Archives.
- (2) Sands Directories.
- (3) Valuer General's South Ward valuation No 180 for 1928.