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

Name of Item Other Names	Block of flats				Reference N° 1 12 30
Address Locality	338 Liverpool Road, corner of Lapish Avenue Ashfield Postcode				Land Title
Item Type Group Name	Building				Owner/s
An unusual building with distinctive Art Deco detailing, well and pleasingly built. It characterises the period of strong residential growth in Ashfield that began before World War II and continued until the time of the war in the Pacific.					Condition as observed from street — Intact Minor alteration — Sympathetic Unsympathetic Major alteration — Sympathetic
Aesthetic	re Asso	ociative Re	epresentative		☐ Unsympathetic Modifications —



Photo Roll N° 23 Frame N° 12 Survey Date Surveyed by RI RI

Ashfield Heritage Study Review of Areas Zoned 2(a)

Current Use

Block of flats, 338 Liverpool Road, corner of Lapish Avenue, Ashfield

Reference N°

1 12 30

Heritage Listing Recommended

Themes: Local Themes: State

Subdivision and consolidation Towns, suburbs and villages

Historical Notes

This narrow street first appears on a map in 1883, and on the east side the land was occupied by a nurseryman named Culbertson. In *Sands Directories* in 1899 it held only industrial properties such as the workshop of H H Wills, engineer.

Then in 1940 the land on the east side was re-subdivided and the street was re-named Lapish Avenue, after Alderman John Lapish, a builder, who was also Mayor of Ashfield.(1) Lot 1 of the subdivision, DP 19412, was at the northern corner, No 338 Liverpool Road, where this block of flats was built. On Lots 2-6, five pairs of 'bungalow flats' were built (now recommended as heritage items, q v). Lots 7 and 8 were at the southern end, now Nos 155 and 157 Norton Street, where two blocks of flats were built.

A Building Application was made by Ashfield owner and builder Raymond Michael Bowcock, who bought the site, on which stood two garages, from Mrs Mary Hamilton. Bowcock built not only the bungalow flats but also the flats on Lots 7 and 8.(2)

In 1949 these six flats and their two garages were owned by Mrs Hilda Link, of Lane Cove. The property was then valued at £680 unimproved and £6,750 improved.(3)

Physical Description

This is a well-designed building which, being on a corner site, has two facades. It is a two-storey block built of variegated brown bricks with tapestry-brick dressings including bands, window and door surrounds and an eaves frieze which incorporates a soldier course. Its hipped roof is of terra cotta tiles. The entrance is in Lapish Avenue, flanked by double-hung timber windows and surmounted by an arched stair hall window. The Liverpool Road facade is a symmetrical Art Deco composition with a moulded-brick vertical fin flanked by recessed balconies which include cantilever slabs with rounded ends and balustrading of curved bricks. Above the upper balconies there are brick panels laid in a unique double-course version of Flemish bond.

Most of the open areas are paved but there is a small lawn area, and several mature trees are planted along both facades. The end and rear walls are laid in common bricks. There is a service area at the rear, and two garages are accessed by a drive from Lapish Avenue.

Information Sources

- (1) Some subdivided lots are shown on the east side of Little King Street on the H E C Robinson map, n d. For John Lapish, see the 1993 Heritage Study.
- (2) Valuer General's records, 1940, Nos 1734 and 1439; D P No 19212; in Ashfield Council Archives. The actual BA for 338 Liverpool Road has not been found.
- (3) Valuer General's records, ibid, 1949, No 1461.