

Ashfield Heritage Study Review of Areas Zoned 2(a)

Current Use House, 'Santa Rosa', 4 Bland Street, Ashfield, one of a group of three adjacent houses	Reference N° 2 02 03
Heritage Listing Recommended	
Themes : Local Subdivision and consolidation	Themes : State Towns, suburbs and villages
<p>Historical Notes</p> <p>For the general history of these houses and their sites, refer to the Inventory sheet for the group.</p> <p>A Building Application for this house was lodged in 1918 by W G Donnelly, owner and builder, of Alt Street. It was for a 'four-room double-fronted brick cottage with "Ruberoid" dampcourse and tile roof, for £700.'(1) The property first appeared in the Ashfield Council Rate Book in 1919, valued at £200 unimproved and £1,050 improved.(2) George E Glassop, Indent Agent, then purchased the property in the name of his wife Edna Glassop, and they lived here from 1920 to 1924, by which time the house had been named 'Santarosa' (sic).(3) In 1924 the house was acquired from Glassop by Harold O Powell for £1,450; its valuation was recorded as £280 unimproved and £1,225.(4) By 1928 those figures had increased to £400 unimproved and £1,350 improved. Harold Powell continued as owner and occupier until at least 1943, in which year the valuation had diminished, presumably because of the effects of the great depression, to £380 unimproved and £1,200.(5)</p>	
<p>Physical Description</p> <p>These adjacent houses, Nos 4, 6 and 8 Bland Street, exhibit three versions of the California Bungalow style, one of the most versatile of all domestic architectural idioms. They are single-storeyed brick residences with tiled roofs. Each has a differently treated L-shaped front, done in brown brick with liver brick trim. No 4 has a hipped roof with crested ridges and terminals, and a recessed verandah covered by a prominent gable. The room bay windows have five casement lights and narrow end lights with leaded glazing and transom lights in muffled glass, and jack-joisted hoods. Window sills are canted bricks. The verandah is an asymmetrical two-bay composition with brick balustrades and curved piers, paired posts and curvilinear brackets, with a fine fret-worked frieze. One chimney survives. The fences of all three houses originally matched the houses, with brick piers and bases and metal panels between the piers. The fence of No 4 is the most original, with quite handsome moulded brick pier caps. The front garden is small and elemental. A carport has been added.</p> <p>Refer also to the separate Inventory sheet for the group.</p>	
<p>Information Sources</p> <p>(1) BA, 1918, No 3440, in Ashfield Council Archives. (2) Rate Book, North Ward, No 2163, <i>ibid</i>. (3) Valuer-General's records, North Ward, 1920, No 384, <i>ibid</i>; <i>Sands Directories</i>. (4) Valuer-General's records, North Ward, 1922-25, No 394, <i>ibid</i>. (5) Valuer-General's records, North Ward, 1928, No 442; 1943, No 476, <i>ibid</i>. <i>Sands Directories</i>.</p>	