| AD 2001 Ashfield Heritage Study Review of Areas Zoned 2(a) | | | |
|---|-------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Name of Item Other Names | House, 'Vahreeba' | | Reference N° 2 10 10 |
| Address | 8 Julia Street | | Land Title |
| Locality | Ashfield Po | stcode | |
| Item Type | Building | | Owner/s |
| Group Name | | | |
| Statement of Significance | | | Condition as observed |
| A fine, unfussy example of the Queen Anne style of architecture, with a distinctive piazza corner bay. The house demonstrates the kind of | | | from street — |
| development and building that was occurring in Ashfield in the Federation period. | | | ☑ Intact Minor_alteration — |
| | | | ☐ Sympathetic |
| | | | ☐ Unsympathetic |
| | | | Major alteration — |
| | | | ☐ Sympathetic |
| Summary of Significance | | | ☐ Unsympathetic |
| Ra | | sentative | Modifications — |
| | | | |
| Aesthetic [| | X | |
| Social [| | | |
| _ | | | |
| Other [| | | |
| | | | |

Surveyed by Survey Date 20 3 13/11/2001 RI $Photo\ Roll\ N^{\circ}$ Frame N°

Ashfield Heritage Study Review of Areas Zoned 2(a)

Current Use

House, 'Vahreeba', 8 Julia Street, Ashfield

2 10 10

Heritage Listing Recommended

Themes: Local Themes: State

Subdivision and consolidation Towns, suburbs and villages

Historical Notes

The land in this vicinity was part of 100 acres granted in 1795 to a group of four men, Privates John Butcher, John Jones and Francis McKewen, and Thomas Rowdon. By about 1820 it had become part of Henry Kable's holding,(1) Early in the 20th century the owner of this allotment and its neighbouring land was George Goward, of Chandos Street, clerk. The site was valued at £183. Goward sold it to the Electric Light, Power & Supply Corporation Ltd, who subdivided it and sold a portion with a 43-feet frontage to Joseph Nicholls Parry, accountant, of the Balmain Electric Company. Parry made a building application in 1913 to erect a four-room double-fronted cottage on a concrete foundation, having a slate dampcourse and tile roof, with an estimated value of £575. The builder was Fred Wilson, of Rookwood.(2) The new house first appeared in the Rate Book in 1914, with a valuation of £157 unimproved and £875 improved.(3) By 1920 the valuation had increased to £210 unimproved and £900 improved, and by 1928 to £441 unimproved and £1,700 improved.(4) For a few years the name of the house was recorded as 'Vareega'. Joseph Parry continued as occupier until at least 1933.(5)

Physical Description

This is a fairly simple single-storeyed Queen Anne-style house of brown brick, tuckpointed at the front. The terra cotta tiled roof is hipped, with gablets at each end of the ridge. A gabled bay projects towards the street at one side and has a triple-light casement window with transom-lights and a skillion hood. From this bay the verandah extends across the front and around the side of the house as a piazza motif. Between the front door and the corner there is a round window, and at the corner a diagonal bay incorporates a five-light casement window suite with leaded obscure glass. This bay continues upwards through the roof as a small diagonally-placed gable. The verandah has a roof which is a continuation of the main roof at a slightly lesser pitch, a tesselated tile floor with marble edging, and paired timber posts with tapered stop chamfers, on brick piers.

The front garden has a large mature tree and the fence is timber pickets, with a curved path (not original) leading to the verandah.

There is a largish later extension at the rear of the house.

Information Sources

- (1) Keith A Johnson & Malcolm Sainty, eds, Land Grants 1788-1809, pp 56, 249; Ashfield Heritage Study 1993, vol 1, pp 32, 36.
- (2) Valuer-General's records, North Ward, 1908-10, No 1076; Rate Book, North Ward, 1913, No 1085; Building Application Register, 1913, No 1390; all in Ashfield Council Archives.
- (3) Rate Book, North Ward, 1914, No 1262, ibid.
- (4) Valuer-General's records, North Ward, 1920, No 1424; 1928, No 1812, ibid.
- (5) Sands Directories.