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

Name of Item	House, 'Mossgiel', one of a group of three houses		Reference N°
Other Names			2 03 04
Address Locality	96 Chandos Street Ashfield	Postcode	Land Title
Item Type	Building		Owner/s
Group Name			
The historical significance of the site and building lies in its associations with the earlier as well as the later developer-owners, and with the range of occupants that demonstrate the vigour of development and ownership in Ashfield in the first half of the 20th century. The building is one of a group of two very good examples, almost mirror images of one another, built by the same builder and forming excellent components of the Federation-period streetscape here. See also the Inventory sheet for the group. Summary of Significance Rare Associative Representative Historic Aesthetic Associative Machine Social			Condition as observed from street — Intact Minor alteration — Sympathetic Unsympathetic Major alteration — Sympathetic Unsympathetic Unsympathetic The condition of the
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	N. Carlot	1 12 1	ALC: MARKETON



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Frame N°

Photo Roll N°

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Survey Date

13/11/2001

Surveyed by

RI

Ashfield Heritage Study Review of Areas Zoned 2(a)

Current Use

House, 'Mossgiel', 96 Chandos Street, Ashfield; one of a group of two houses

Reference N° 2 03 04

Heritage Listing Recommended

Themes: Local Themes: State

Subdivision and consolidation Towns, suburbs and villages

Historical Notes

The early history of this site is given in the Inventory sheet for the group, q v. The building was built for William Smyth (or Smythe), a gardener, of Summer Hill, who had acquired the land of which this allotment is part.

The house had been built in 1908, when the property was first valued (£81 unimproved and £601 improved). The first occupant, in that year, was Mrs Marianna Moss, and the house was called 'Mossgiel'. But the property cannot be found in the Rate Book until 1911.(1) In 1913 Smyth sold the property to Thomas Brown for £715, in which year, interestingly, its valuation was £72 unimproved and £600 improved. Brown became co-occupier with Mrs Moss in 1913, and they continued so until at least 1933.(2) By 1920 the valuation of the property was £118 unimproved and £675 improved, and by 1928 these figures had increased to £415 unimproved and £1,200 improved.(3)

Physical Description

A single-storey stretcher-bond house of brown brickwork on a sandstone base, with facade only of tuckpointed face-work up to door head height, above which it is roughcast rendered and painted. The walling elsewhere is common bricks; chimneys are unpainted roughcast with terra cotta pots. The hipped roof is unglazed orange terra cotta tiles with ridge scroll terminals. The design is asymmetrical, with a verandah alongside a projecting gable; the gable has bracketted plates and a decorative panel-and-batten screen motif. The gable windows are a pair of double-hung frames with top sashes subdivided into small panes, and segmental arch heads. Sills are bullnose bricks. The front doorcase includes a leaded transom-light. The verandah has a skillion roof of slightly lower pitch than the main roof, with a pair of posts on a single brick pier, simple timber brackets and ornament, and exposed rafter ends. There is a skillion-roofed rear wing.

A concrete path leads from the gate in an appropriate picket fence to stone steps up to the verandah, which is floored with tesselated tiles and slate edging. The front garden is small, simple and neat. The house is in excellent and very original condition.

Information Sources

- (1) Valuer-General's records, North Ward, 1908-10, No 101; *Sands Directories*; Rate Book, North Ward, 1911, No 399, in Ashfield Council Archives.
- (2) Rate Book, North Ward, 1913, No 399; Sands Directories.
- (3) Valuer-General's records, ibid, 1920, No 538 and 1928, No 618.