

Ashfield Heritage Study Inventory Sheets 2010

Name of Item	Pair of residences, No 152 is 'Cobbitty'.	Reference N°	10/38
Other Names		Land Title	
Address	150-152 Ramsay Street		
Locality	Haberfield	Postcode	2025
Item Type	Building	Owner/s	
Group Name			
Statement of Significance		Condition as observed from street —	
<p>This group, Nos 146-148 and Nos 150-152, forms an unusual ensemble of two elevated pairs of semi-detached speculative residences, designed in an eclectic version of the Federation Queen Anne style of architecture. Each pair has considerable architectural interest such as a diagonal-laid asbestos cement roof and a modelled Coat of Arms plaque. They are maintained in virtually original condition.</p> <p>The four are associated with William Genge, a prominent builder and developer of Ashfield.</p>		<input type="checkbox"/> Intact	
		Minor alteration — <input type="checkbox"/> Sympathetic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsympathetic	
Summary of Significance		Major alteration —	
	Rare	Associative	Representative
Historic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aesthetic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Social	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Modifications —	
		Front fence of No 152 modified. Concrete paving instead of a garden at No 150.	



Surveyed by

RI

Survey Date

1/4/2010

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Current Use	Reference N° 10/38
Heritage Listing Ashfield Local Environmental Plan 1985, Schedule 7	
Themes : Local	Themes : State
<p>Historical Notes</p> <p>This is one of two identical adjoining pairs (the other is Nos 146-148) in the Dobroyde Subdivision No 2. The vacant site was owned by McKenzie & Belisario in 1908, when it was purchased by William John Genge, a prominent landowner and developer in Ashfield.(1) In 1915 a building application was lodged on behalf of George by Potter Bros, builders, of Croydon, for the erection of these four 4-roomed cottages, each pair valued at £1,350. They were completed in February 1916. They were owned by William John Genge until 1928 when, after his death, the two pairs were inherited by William Thomas Genge.</p> <p>W T Genge owned the four residences until at least 1961 and in that year their improved valuations were recorded as £3,500 each.(2)</p> <p>The four cottages were tenanted virtually without break from 1916. The first tenants were Harry May (No 150, for one year) and Murdoch Maclean (No 152, for four years). George York rented No 150 for six years, from 1920 to 1925, but the other tenancies changed more frequently.(3)</p> <p>This property is Classified by the National Trust of Australia (NSW).</p>	
<p>Physical Description</p> <p>This semi-detached pair of houses is situated on a site sloping up from the higher side of Ramsay Street. They are essentially identical to their neighbours at Nos 146-148. The building is single-storeyed, of red-brown brick on a sandstone base, with a tuckpointed facade and side walling in common bricks. Steps with tiled risers lead to each verandah, through a three-ring dark brick arch with a modelled label mould and red-brown brick abutments. The pair of arches so formed is crowned by a rendered gable emphasising the entrances and bearing a plaque with a modelled Australian coat of arms, 'Advance Australia'. The twin stairs, with marble treads, are separated by a fence of metal rails, while the front dividing fence is pickets. Each verandah has a skillion roof, brick balustrade, a timber post, a curved valance and an enclosed end. A three-light casement window of the front room faces each verandah. The hipped roof is clad in diagonal asbestos-cement tiles with terra cotta trim. Chimneys are rendered with moulded tops.</p> <p>No 150 has a concrete paved area instead of a front garden, and a picket fence.</p> <p>No 152 has a simple front garden, a low brick plinth and end pier instead of a front fence, and a side boundary fence of pickets.</p>	
<p>Information Sources</p> <p>(1) William J Genge's own house formerly on the site of the St Joan of Arc church in Dalhousie Street was one of several suggested by the Council to the editor of the <i>Australian Home Journal</i> in 1907, as a residence worthy of publication in the <i>Journal</i>.</p> <p>(2) Information about ownership and valuations comes from the rate books and the Valuer-General's records in the Archives of Ashfield Council.</p> <p>(3) Occupancies are recorded in the yearly editions of <i>Sands Directories</i>.</p>	