Ashfield Heritage Study Inventory Sheets 2010

Name of Item	Resider	nce, 'Omrah''			Reference N°
Other Names	Glen D	ale' (1904). 'Belcluth	na' (1912)		10/51
Address	27 Turr	er Avenue, corner of	Land Title		
Locality	Haberfi	eld	Postcode	2045	
Item Type	Buildin	g			Owner/s
Group Name					
Statement of S	Significance				Condition as observed
A large and i	impressive l	nouse probably design	ned by Richa	rd Stanton's	from street —
architect, D	□ Intact				
Despite considerable alterations the house and its setting continue to demonstrate the high quality residential work prescribed by Stanton.					Minor alteration — ☐ Sympathetic
					☐ Unsympathetic
					Major alteration —
Summary of S	Significance				☐ Unsympathetic
Summary of t	Rare	Associative	Represe	entative	Modifications —
Historic	\boxtimes		\boxtimes		Additions including
Aesthetic			\boxtimes		upper storey. Original roofing replaced.
Social			\boxtimes		rooming repraced.
Scientific					
Other					



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Current Use Residential			Reference N° 10/51			
Heritage Listing Ashfield Local Environmental Plan 1985, Schedule 7						
Themes : Local		Themes : State				
Subdivision and c	onsolidation	Towns, suburbs and villages				

Historical Notes

This house was built in Richard Stanton's Haberfield Subdivision No 1 in 1904 for Ernest S Bull, orchardist, who gave it the name 'Omrah'. Its design is very similar to the house 'Doveton', erected on an opposite corner of Turner Avenue and Kingston Street for Mr G J Hall, as illustrated in Stanton & Son's brochure, *Haberfield Estate*.(1) In that brochure Stanton declares that 'The cottages are all from designs by Mr D Wormal, an architect of repute, with English and Continental experience.' Note the spelling of his name, not Wormald as is usually stated.

The property changed hands in 1912 when Charles Hammond bought it, and again in 1913 when Hammond sold to Walter Ernest Frost, of Paddington. In 1912, when the house was rented by the Rev W T Hooker, a Congregational minister, its name was changed to 'Belclutha'. Other tenants followed. Then in 1943 the property was purchased from the estate of Walter Frost by Stanley Newsome Butler, engineer, who occupied it. The house name was changed again, to 'Glen Dale'. Butler sold it to Ralph James and Olive Jean Miller in 1955. In 1961, when the property was occupied by Mrs Olive Jean Miller, its improved valuation was recorded as £5,600.(2) The house now has its original name, 'Omrah'.

In more recent years a second storey has been added and rear extensions made.(3)

Physical Description

A single-storeyed residence designed in the Queen Anne style of architecture. The walls are in cavity face brickwork, with tuckpointing still evident in protected areas. The roof is an ensemble of hipped elements including a pyramid above a polygonal bay over the entrance and there is a gable with an apex screen facing Turner Avenue. Distinctive features, as well as the polygonal entrance bay, include handsome chimneys, a curved side window bay with double toplights, and a corner window also having double toplights. Much of the window glass is leaded, with Art Nouveau motifs. The entrance has a tiled floor, timber railing and posts, and a baluster frieze. There is a five-panel door with elegant sidelight and toplights and a slate threshold.

There is no front fence but a concrete path leads from the corner through the dense garden to the entrance. The mature planting includes a tall palm.

Information Sources

- (1) The booklet *Haberfield Estate* is undated but was published in about 1904. A copy is in the collection of the National Library of Australia.
- (2) Information about owners and valuations comes from the rate books and the Valuer-General's records in the Archives of Ashfield Council. Occupiers are listed in *Sands Directories*.
- (3) Information from Mr Harry Stephens, architect.