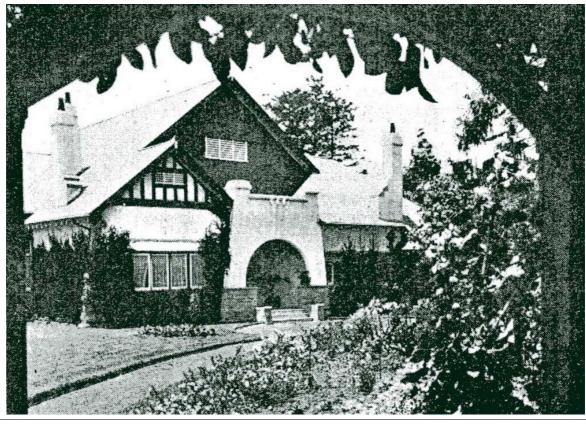
# **Ashfield Heritage Study Inventory Sheets 2010**

Name of Item		nyas'			Reference N° 10/41
Other Names	<b>S</b>				10/41
Address	5 Roger	s Avenue			Land Title
Locality	Haberfie	eld	Postcode	2045	
Item Type	Building	2			Owner/s
Group Name					
Statement of Significance					Condition as observed
This mansion	from street —				
the time it was	☐ Intact				
state's most s The buildi	Minor alteration —				
architecture a	☐ Sympathetic				
setting, once	☐ Unsympathetic				
pleasing.	Major alteration —				
It is also a Spencer-Stan	Sympathetic   ✓				
					☐ Unsympathetic
Summary of Significance					Chisympathetic
	Rare	Associative	Represe	ntative	Modifications —
Historic	$\boxtimes$	$\boxtimes$			A substantial extension
Aesthetic	$\boxtimes$	$\boxtimes$			on the western side along Rogers Avenue.
Social		$\boxtimes$	$\boxtimes$		along Rogols Hvenue.
Scientific					
Other					
					I .



Surveyed by

RI

1/4/2010

**Survey Date** 

## Ashfield Heritage Study Inventory Sheets 2010

Current Use	Reference N°
Business and office headquarters	10/41

Heritage Listing State Heritage Register. Ashfield Local Environmental Plan 1985, Schedule 7

Themes: Local Themes: State

Subdivision and consolidation Towns, suburbs and villages

### **Historical Notes**

Until the coming of the steam tramway from Leichhardt to Five Dock, the Haberfield and Dobroyde Point area was used as farmland, with scattered industries. After the end of the 1893 depression, Richard Stanton and W H Nicholls, real estate agents, of Summer Hill, purchased 50 acres of the Dobroyde Estate from the Ramsav family.(1)

Richard Stanton (1862-1943) was an Irish immigrant whose father Patrick developed a furniture and auctioneering business in Summer Hill. Stanton became an Ashfield alderman and was twice mayor (1893-94 and 1906). The first Haberfield subdivision occurred by 1901 and Stanton Junior moved to the new estate in 1907. By 1910 he controlled 200 acres in the municipality.(2)

The original Dobroyde House was demolished and 'The Bunyas' erected, to the design of the Haberfield Estate architect John Spencer-Stansfield. Spencer-Stansfield was born in Leeds in 1882, migrated to Australia as a child, and was later articled to Sydney architect Walter Newman. He became architect for Haberfield Estates from 1905 to 1914, during which time he designed over a thousand houses in what was called Haberfield Model Suburb, including 'The Bunyas' in 1906.(3)

The house was featured in the 1 February 1913 edition of *Home & Garden Beautiful* magazine. It was later extended on the west side, facing Rogers Avenue. In 1985 the property became the headquarters of the Boy Scout Association of New South Wales. At the time of writing it is occupied by the firm Eastmark Holdings.

#### **Physical Description**

'The Bunyas' is a rare item in Haberfield not only as a very large house but also for being two-storeyed. It was named for the bunya pines that stood on the site from the days when the Ramsays lived in Dobroyde House there. *Building* magazine described Stanton's residence in 1909 as a Haberfield architectural gem of unique design, artistically balanced, with a pretty garden setting.(4) Its site originally extended from Parramatta Road to opposite Tinana Street and from Rogers Avenue to Dalhousie Street. The excision of the land along Dalhousie Street and Parramatta Road for development occurred in 1928, after the Stanton family moved out.

Under a massive multi-gabled slate roof the house features prominent gables with panel-and-batten screens, roughcast-rendered and face-brick walling, tall chimneys, and stone pillars on the eastern verandah. A large arch marks the projecting east entry, which has canted walls and mortar-board caps. There are large banks of casement windows, with bracketted heads.

In more recent years the west wing of the house was extended by a gabled section parallel with Rogers Avenue, designed in sympathy with the original. It includes prominent skillion dormers lighting an attic storey. The present entrance is located on this side of the building, from Rogers Avenue.

The garden setting of the house, despite its diminution as a result of post-Stanton occupancy, is ample and pleasing, with lawns, mature trees and other plantings. The fence is also appropriate to the architectural style of the building.

#### **Information Sources**

- (1) Heritage Listing in the State Heritage Register. Chris Pratten, in *Ashfield at Federation* (ADHS, 2001), p 37. The estate was also spelt 'Dobroyde'. A couple of Victorian 2-storey houses were in the estate.
- (2) Chris Pratten, op cit, p 36. Patrick Stanton died in 1889 but the business was called Stanton & Son until later although Richard Stanton was by then sole proprietor. Sheena & Coupe, Speed the Plough. Vincent Crow, Haberfield the Garden Suburb. The Australian Dictionary of Biography.
- (3) Who's Who in Australia, 1929, p 1311.
- (4) Building, 13 December 1909, p 92.

**Note**: The illustration is from *Building*, 13 December 1909. Its caption reads 'A Haberfield Architectural Gem of Unique Design, architecturally balanced, with a Pretty Garden Setting.'