

Ashfield Heritage Study Inventory Sheets 2010

Name of Item	Residence, 'Coo-ee', part of Group	Reference N°	10/64
Other Names	'Ardallah' (1908-1940)		
Address	20 Wellesley Street	Land Title	
Locality	Summer Hill	Postcode	2130
Item Type	Building	Owner/s	
Group Name			
Statement of Significance		Condition as observed from street —	
<p>The Wellesley Street houses are evaluated as a Group as well as individually. The Group is significant for its relationship to the early Quarantine Ground and its subdivision, with which the street is roughly contemporary. It is also significant for the considerable variety in the dates of construction of the individual buildings and consequently for their interesting range of architectural styles. As well, the historical data associated with each is significant.</p> <p>This house represents the original character of the Group, as an example of the Victorian Italianate-Fligree style of architecture, rare here. It also makes a positive contribution to the streetscape.</p>		<input type="checkbox"/> Intact	
		Minor alteration — <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sympathetic <input 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 —	
		A sympathetic carport and front fence ensemble.	



Surveyed by

RI

Survey Date

3/3/2010

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<p>Current Use Residential</p>	<p>Reference N° 10/64</p>
<p>Heritage Listing Ashfield Local Environmental Plan 1985, Schedule 7</p>	
<p>Themes : Local Subdivision and consolidation</p>	<p>Themes : State Towns, suburbs and villages</p>
<p>Historical Notes</p> <p>The land in this area was granted to Joseph Foveaux in 1794. It was ultimately incorporated into Robert Campbell's Canterbury Park Estate and was still owned by Sophia Campbell when the present Wellesley Street became the south boundary of a quarantine station. These allotments on the south side of Wellesley Street are generally slightly wider than those created when the quarantine ground was subdivided.</p> <p>Wellesley Street, named after the famous Duke of Wellington, was named in 1878. No houses were built here until 1882, when the Ashfield Rate Book for that year shows John Barrie as the owner of the pair of semi-detached houses at Nos 36-38.</p> <p>The owner of this site in 1883 was J B Chambers, who sold it (possibly containing the house) in 1884 to G B Walker. The house was tenanted by James Nicol (1) when Edward W Fieldhouse, storekeeper, of Campbelltown, bought it in 1886. The architect H C Hind tenanted the house from 1888 to 1890. Fieldhouse owned the property and rented it until 1920, when it was acquired by the tenant James Gunner, gardener. From 1928 the owner was John Gunner, who sold the property in 1961 to Alfredo Bertaldi and Mrs Ana Martincic. In that year the improved valuation was £5,240.(2)</p>	
<p>Physical Description</p> <p>The properties in this Wellesley Street Group were part of what was called the Quarantine Ground Conservation Area in the 1991-92 Ashfield Heritage Study. In the event, however, Council did not so incorporate them in the Conservation Area but scheduled them separately as individual heritage items. This is one of those 17 buildings in the Group so scheduled.</p> <p>'Coo-ee' is one of the grandest terrace-type freestanding houses in this area. It stands on a site slightly wider than most of the other Wellesley Street allotments. Like those wider ones it has a side driveway and space for a car under an unobtrusive carport.</p> <p>The house is a two-storeyed brick-and-stucco example of the Victorian Italianate-Filigree style of architecture. A tall decorated, panelled and balustraded parapet, crowned by an open pediment and urns, surmounts the front verandah ensemble, which has a skillion roof of corrugated metal. The verandah and balcony are contained within projecting firewalls, which have modelled decorative stele and foliated half-columns. The verandah has a tiled floor, an arched triple-light window and an arched entrance door, while the balcony has two pairs of French windows and balustrade panels of cast iron, in a pattern design fashionable in the 1880s.</p> <p>The simple garden is fronted by a modern palisade-plinth-pier fence, with a matching pair of driveway gates.</p>	
<p>Information Sources</p> <p>(1) Nicol was also associated with No 6 and No 8 Wellesley Street. See the Inventory Sheets for those properties.</p> <p>(2) Information about owners and valuations are to be found in the Archives of Ashfield Council. Details of occupancies are recorded in <i>Sands Directories</i>.</p>	