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

House, 'Waratah	', one of a gro	oup of two h	ouses	Reference N° 3 13 02
3 Moonbie Street Summer Hill Postcode 2130			2130	Land Title
Building				Owner/s
Statement of Significance These houses characterise the importance of neat architectural styling, and represent the place of speculative housing development, in the late Victorian period in Ashfield.				Condition as observed from street — Intact Minor alteration — Sympathetic Unsympathetic Major alteration — Sympathetic
re Assoc	1]]	epresentativ	e	■ Unsympathetic Modifications — Slate roof replaced by tiles. Chimneys removed. Palisade fence altered.
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Photo Roll N° 32 Frame N° 19 Survey Date Surveyed by 5/5/2002 RI

Ashfield Heritage Study Review of Areas Zoned 2(a)

Current Use

House, 'Waratah', 3 Moonbie Street, Summer Hill: one of a group of two houses

Reference N° 3 13 02

Heritage Listing Recommended

Themes: Local Themes: State

Subdivision and consolidation Towns, suburbs and villages

The Boom Years

Historical Notes

The date of erection of these two identical houses is not known, but No 3 first appears in the Rate Book in 1897 and No 5 in 1900. At that time their addresses were 1a and 1b Moonbie Street. Both were owned by Phillip Kelly, described as a gentleman, who lived at what was then No 1 Moonbie Street, presumably in the house at the corner of Short Street. The present numbers began in 1916.(1)

The first tenant of what is now No 3 was Alfred Booth, who lived here for only a short while. From 1900 to 1906 the occupier was William Caldwell, and then Walter Bragg, an accountant, in whose brief tenancy the house was named, moved in. Later tenants listed in *Sands Directories* included Mrs Hannah Todd (1909- 15) and William Spencer (1918 until at least 1933).

The earliest valuation found was in 1908, when the property, still in the possession of Phillip Kelly, was assessed at £135 unimproved and £525 improved. In 1920, then owned by Samuel Graham, builder, of 26 Moonbie Street, the valuation was £188 unimproved and £575 improved. By 1928, still owned by Graham, the property was valued at £350/£750. In 1943 the owner was recorded as the Estate of the late Samuel David Graham and its valuation had declined to £306 unimproved and £600 improved.(2)

Physical Description

These two freestanding houses are narrow buildings exhibiting elements of two Victorian architectural styles, Italianate and Rustic Gothic. In each case the Italianate features are the asymmetrical form, the facetted bay and the stilted segmental window arches. The Rustic Gothic detailing is principally in the decorative gable bargeboards. The entrance is recessed beside the gabled bay, with a small bullnose-ended parapet which originally would have echoed the contour of the bullnose corrugated iron roof of the porch. The construction is stuccoed brick and the main roof is a lateral gable behind the front gable bay. The facetted roof of each bay has an imbricated pattern. The modelled stucco detailing includes vermiculated quoins, mullion capitals, arch mouldings, bay eaves friezes, and sill aprons. The front paths, steps and porch floor were originally tesselated tiles, but those of No 5 have been changed.

There are small, neat front gardens and iron palisade fences with plinths and piers. The fence picket spears of No 3 have been cut off. Each house has a side driveway. No 3 has hard standing for a vehicle and No 5 has an added carport. The chimneys are missing and the slate roofs have been replaced by terra cotta tiles.(3)

Information Sources

- (1) Rate Book, East Ward, 1897, No 499; 1900, No 513; 1907, No 697; in Ashfield Council Archives; *Sands Directories*.
- (2) Valuer-General's records, east ward, 1908-10, No 618; 1920, No 872; 1928, No 898; 1943, No 979; in Ashfield Council Archives.
- (3) The 1920 valuation records the slate roofs.