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

Name of Item Other Names	House			Reference N° 3 11 01
Address Locality	30 Kensington Road Summer Hill	Postcode 2130)	Land Title
Item Type Group Name	Building			Owner/s
Statement of Significance An interesting and sound house which is a quite fine example of the Victorian Filigree style of architecture, which suited the narrow allotments into which the North Summer Hill part of the Underwood Estate was subdivided. Like some other parts of North Summer Hill, the property reflects an important part of Ashfield's history. Summary of Significance				Condition as observed from street — Intact Minor alteration — Sympathetic Unsympathetic Major alteration — Sympathetic Unsympathetic Unsympathetic
Historic C Aesthetic C Social C Scientific C Other C	Associative Associative	Representative		Modifications —



Photo Roll N° 40 Frame N° 5A Survey Date Surveyed by RI $^{\circ}$

Ashfield Heritage Study Review of Areas Zoned 2(a)

Current Use
House, 30 Kensington Road, Summer Hill

Reference N° 3 11 01

Heritage Listing Recommended

Themes: Local Themes: State

Subdivision and consolidation Towns, suburbs and villages

The Boom Years

Historical Notes

This land is part of a re-subdivision of the Underwood Estate. Its first white grantee was Henry Kable in 1804. Underwood died in 1944 and left a will so complicated that special legislation was required before the land could be subdivided. After the estate was put up for sale, it appears that this allotment was bought by William Corrigal in 1887.

The first evidence of the house itself was in 1888, when it was owned by Mary Dunlop, wife of George Dunlop, a builder and stonemason (Dunlop also owned the property next door at what is now No 30A, an existing heritage item). It was occupied briefly by Alfred Wellisch and called 'Kingston House'. From 1898 George Dunlop is listed as occupant.(1) By 1907 it was in the ownership of Mrs Florence E Vass, of Glebe. In 1908 the house was named 'Florence'. Its valuation was £187 unimproved and £757 improved, and its occupier for two years was Walter Price, grocer, who paid a weekly rental of 16 shillings.(2) From 1911 until 1928, still owned by Mrs Vass, the house's occupants were Joseph W West and his family. The name 'Florence' was used until at least 1917, when the property still had its old street number, 45. In 1928 its valuation was £203 unimproved and £900 improved.(3)

Physical Description

A Victorian-period single-fronted, two-storey terrace type house which abuts No 30A, the residence at the corner of Bogan Street. It has the usual form of such a house, including side parapets and walls that project forward as firewalls embracing the verandah, with vermiculated eaves-stops and console brackets. The facade is rendered and lined to simulate ashlar and the side wall is painted brick. The roof is slate and the chimney has a corniced top. The ground-floor doorway and single window opening are round-headed with label courses around each arch extrados and the window sill is moulded and bracketted. The upper balcony has two pairs of French doors with shallow arch heads. The verandah ensemble comprises a roof of concave-profile corrugated metal and attractive cast iron filigree work. The balcony panel design is a fine variant of the overlapping semicircle pattern; it was registered in 1887 in Queensland (Registration No 38) by A Overend & Co.(4) The frieze, fringe and bracket castings are also interestingly fine. There is a single post of round timber, with an iron capital, on the lower storey only. The verandah floor and front path are tesselated tiles, the verandah having slate edging.

The front fence is an iron palisade on a roundback plinth.

Information Sources

- (1) Ashfield Heritage Study 1993, vol 1, pp 32, 36; vol 2, item 150; Ashfield Rate Books, East Ward, 1887, No 961; ibid, 1888, No 1002; Sands Directories, from 1887; in Ashfield Council Archives
- (2) Rate Book, East Ward, 1907, No 204; Valuer-General's records, East Ward, 1908, Nos 318, 1272.
- (3) Valuer-General's records, ibid, 1922, No 913; 1928, No 935; Sands Directories.
- (4) Brian Turner, Australia's Iron Lace (Allen & Unwin, 1985), p 185.