


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

Name of Item House, 'Rockfield' Other Names	Reference N° 3 08 06																								
Address 6 Hurlstone Avenue Locality Summer Hill Postcode 2130	Land Title																								
Item Type Building Group Name	Owner/s																								
Statement of Significance <p>This is the most distinctive example in a street of very distinctive houses. It illustrates the high quality of building promoted by the developer's covenants on the titles of the Prospect Hall Estate when it was created after 1908. The history of the site has associations with prominent Ashfield personalities of the Federation period. The building is a fine example of the Arts-&-Crafts style of architecture and an excellent component of the streetscapes of this conservation area.</p>	Condition as observed from street — <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intact Minor alteration — <input type="checkbox"/> Sympathetic <input type="checkbox"/> Unsympathetic Major alteration — <input type="checkbox"/> Sympathetic <input type="checkbox"/> Unsympathetic																								
Summary of Significance <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;"></th> <th style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">Rare</th> <th style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">Associative</th> <th style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">Representative</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Historic</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aesthetic</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scientific</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Rare	Associative	Representative	Historic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aesthetic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 — <p>The lich gates, though sympathetic in design, are not original.</p>
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Photo Roll N° 45	Frame N° 10																								
Survey Date 16/8/2002	Surveyed by RI																								

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Current Use House, 'Rockfield', 6 Hurlstone Avenue, Summer Hill	Reference N° 3 08 06
Heritage Listing Recommended	
Themes : Local Subdivision and consolidation	Themes : State Towns, suburbs and villages
<p>Historical Notes</p> <p>This site was part of the Prospect Hall Estate, having begun as part of a grant made to Edward Haven in 1794, which was acquired by Robert Campbell and incorporated into his Canterbury Park Estate. James Bartlett, an enterprising builder-developer, bought the land from Campbell's heir Sophia, and built his large residence 'Prospect Hall' south of Seaview Street. After his death in 1904 part of his estate was purchased by Dr Henry Hinder in 1908. Houses including 'Prospect Hall' were demolished to enable re-subdivision to proceed. The titles had covenants, limiting building to one residence or two semi-detached houses per lot, to be built of brick or stone, with roof of slate, tiles or shingles, to the value of not less than £300. No shops or business premises were allowed.(1)</p> <p>A Building Note dated 1909 and lodged by A Swain of Lewisham, as builder, indicates that this house was built in that year.(2) The site was valued in 1910 at £135 and the building at £715, and the property was sold in that year to Maria Faithful Greene, of Neutral Bay, whose occupation was given as 'home duties'. The occupant was listed as Henri D Greene and the house received its name 'Rockfield' at that time. John H Smith was tenant from 1918 to 1922 and thereafter there were other occupiers including Mrs M F Greene. Frank H Callaway was tenant from 1926 until at least 1933. Maria Greene continued as owner until 1943, when Mrs Henrietta Sarah Brown was recorded as owner-occupier. Its valuation in that year was £427 unimproved and £1,450 improved.(3)</p>	
<p>Physical Description</p> <p>This is a fine single-storeyed brick house, located in the existing Prospect Hall conservation area. It characterises the Arts-&-Crafts style of architecture, having tuckpointed red-brown facade brickwork up to about window head height, with roughcast render above, extending into the lower part of the gable of the projecting side bay, above which there is a decorative apex panel of shingles. It has a dominant roof, covered in plain terra cotta tiles—a rarity in Ashfield—with terra cotta hips, crested ridges and gablet roof vents. The house is the expected shape, with a hipped main roof, a street-facing gable and a skillion-roofed appendage, and the walling other than the facade is common brickwork. The chimneys are roughcast with brick tops and terra cotta pots. In the gable there is a two-light double-hung window enframed by stucco and surmounted by a bracketted hood. The verandah, alongside the gable, has a skillion roof extended from the main roof at a slightly lower pitch, paired timber posts and shaped valence beams, timber fretwork balustrading and a tessellated tile floor with slate edging. The two-light double-hung window under the verandah is contained in a faceted projection, while the front door is multi-panelled with leadlighting, sidelight and transom light. The window transom lights are small panes of coloured glass.</p> <p>A curved front path leads from the front gate to the verandah steps. The garden is simple, with one mature tree. The front fence supports a ficus pumila hedge and there are two lich gates, not original: one over the driveway gates which lead to a rear garage of appropriate character.</p> <p>It has been suggested that the houses in the Prospect Hall Estate including this were designed by John Spencer-Stansfield, designer of Haberfield Model Suburb.(4)</p>	
<p>Information Sources</p> <p>(1) <i>Ashfield Heritage Study 1993</i>, vol 1, p 163 et seq; Chris Pratten (ed), <i>Ashfield at Federation</i>, p 28. Dr Henry Hinder was a well-known medico and surgeon, as well as being one of the important early real estate entrepreneurs of Ashfield.</p> <p>(2) According to the Ashfield & District Historical Society, Swain was a doctor.</p> <p>(3) Valuer-General's records, east ward, 1910, No 1103; Building Note 46/09; SN 11/11/09; in Ashfield Council Archives; Valuer-General's records, east ward, 1920, No 753; 1922, No 660; 1928, No 694; 1943, No 761. <i>Sands Directories</i>, 1908-33.</p> <p>(4) <i>Ashfield Heritage Study 1993</i>, vol 1, p 164.</p>	