


ASHFIELD HERITAGE STUDY

1991-1992

NAME Post Office Pillar Box		REFERENCE NO. 242
OTHER NAMES		REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION
LOCALITY / SUBURB Summer Hill POSTCODE 2130		ZONING N/A
STREET ADDRESS Cnr Sloane Street and Grosvenor Crescent		OWNER
MAP REFERENCE		BOUNDARY / IDENTIFICATION The Pillar Box only
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS/HISTORICAL NOTES - SEE OVER		
CATEGORY		
EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE		
Historic: Rare <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Associative <input type="checkbox"/>	Representative <input type="checkbox"/>
Aesthetic: Rare <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Associative <input type="checkbox"/>	Representative <input type="checkbox"/>
Social: Rare <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Associative <input type="checkbox"/>	Representative <input type="checkbox"/>
Scientific: Rare <input type="checkbox"/>	Associative <input type="checkbox"/>	Representative <input type="checkbox"/>
Other: Rare <input type="checkbox"/>	Associative <input type="checkbox"/>	Representative <input type="checkbox"/>
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE * The only known example in the Municipality of a traditional cast iron letter receiving box.		SITE CONDITION Intact <input type="checkbox"/> Minor Alteration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major Alteration <input type="checkbox"/> - Sympathetic <input type="checkbox"/> - Unsympathetic <input type="checkbox"/> Removed (site only) <input type="checkbox"/>
		
PHOTOGRAPHS BandW ROLL 91-052-13 NEG NO. 16a COLOUR SLIDES ROLL FRAME NO.		DATE OF SURVEY 25/5/92 SURVEYOR RI/CHP
STUDY TEAM: Richard Mackay, Robert Irving, Chris Pratten, Jill Sheppard, Stephen Harris		

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<p>HERITAGE LISTINGS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Register of the National Estate (AHC) - Registered</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Register of the National Estate (AHC) - Interim</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Register of National Trust (NSW)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Within National Trust Conservation Area</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Register of Significant Twentieth Century Architecture (RAIA)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Department of Public Works Heritage and Conservation Register</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Council Register - Permanent Conservation Order</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Council Register - Interim Conservation Order</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Council Register - Section 130 Order</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Council Register - Nomination</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NSW Government Department Heritage Register (S170 Heritage Act)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Institution of Engineers (NSW) Heritage Register</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Regional Environmental Plan Heritage Schedule</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Local Environmental Plan Heritage Schedule</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>	<p>PERIOD</p> <p>Pre - 1800 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1800 - 1825 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1825 - 1850 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1851 - 1875 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1876 - 1900 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1901 - 1925 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1926 - 1950 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1951 - 1975 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Post - 1975 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>HISTORICAL THEMES:</p> <p>State Themes: Cultural and social life.</p> <p>Local Themes: Subdivision and consolidation.</p>	<p>REFERENCE NO. 242</p> <p>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION c. 1890</p> <p>ARCHITECT/DESIGNER</p> <p>BUILDER Maker: Triggs and Maggs, Iron Founders</p>
<p>HISTORICAL NOTES</p> <p>The first "receiving boxes" were fixed in several parts of Sydney in 1831. They were cleared twice a day and the standard postage fee of twopence was collected on delivery or at post offices. The introduction of stamped covers in 1838 facilitated prepaid postage and, from then, letters posted this way were delivered without further charge.</p> <p>Cast iron post boxes (called "pillar boxes" because of their resemblance to classical columns) were introduced about the middle of the nineteenth century. They were superseded generally by steel letter posting boxes but a few cast iron receivers are still in use today. The Summer Hill pillar box is not so used, being retained as a historical curiosity.</p> <p>This letter receiver is identical in design with the ones cast earlier by Bubb and Sons for the Postmaster General's Department, of which one still survives in Darling Street, Balmain, at the corner of Curtis Road. The Ashfield example, however, was cast by Triggs and Maggs, about whom little information is available.</p>		
<p>INFORMATION SOURCES:</p> <p>Written: "Over One Hundred Years of Letter Receivers", by Nora Peek, in <u>Aust. Soc. for Historical Archaeology Newsletter</u>, Vol. 4, No. 2 Nov. 1974.</p> <p>Oral:</p> <p>Graphic:</p>		
<p>PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:</p> <p>Materials: Painted cast iron.</p> <p>Exterior:</p> <p>Interior:</p> <p>Styles: Free Classical.</p>		
<p>DESCRIPTION:</p> <p>A cast iron post office letter posting box of the kind which, because of its circular, tapered shape and its division into base, shaft and capital, resembling a Classical column, was referred to as a pillar box. This example has a base, frieze and cap embellished with acanthus leaves, while its ogee shaped cap is surmounted by a floral bud. Cast into its door is the makers' name, Triggs and Maggs, Sydney. The beaded band contains the legend "Post Office Letter Box". This letter receiver is thought to date from the late nineteenth century.</p>		
<p>MODIFICATION:</p> <p>Letter slots are covered to prevent use. Door fixed shut and bolt removed, though staples remain.</p>		