

NEWTOWN URBAN CONSERVATION STUDY. - 'C' CITATIONS. Ref: 199
Richard Peterson Architect & Conservation Consultant. 1997.

NAME: —		
ADDRESS: 71 Saffron Street		
USE: House		
SIGNIFICANT DATE:	CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1893	SOURCE: 1
DESIGNER: —	BUILDER: —	
CRITERIA: H1; Ar1	HISTORIC THEME: 2.3	
DESCRIPTION:	STYLE: Italianate	STORIES: 1 DETACHED.
MATERIALS:	WALLS: Timber	ROOF: Iron STRUCTURE: Stud
CONDITION: Good	INTACTNESS: Excellent	THREATS: —
SIGNIFICANT INTACT ELEMENTS: FORM. FACADE. VERANDAH. ROOF FORM. EAVES DECORATION. VERANDAH DECORATION. CHIMNEYS. DOOR. WINDOWS. PAINTWORK SCHEME. CONTEXT Nos: 69, 73.		
SIGNIFICANCE:		
TYPE:	HISTORICAL. ARCHITECTURAL.	
LEVEL:	LOCAL.	
DESIGNATION EXISTING:	PLANNING SCHEME.	
RECOMMENDED CONTROL:	PLANNING SCHEME.	
SURVEY: RP'	DATE: 16.3.1997	NEGS: 12.10; 1279.7



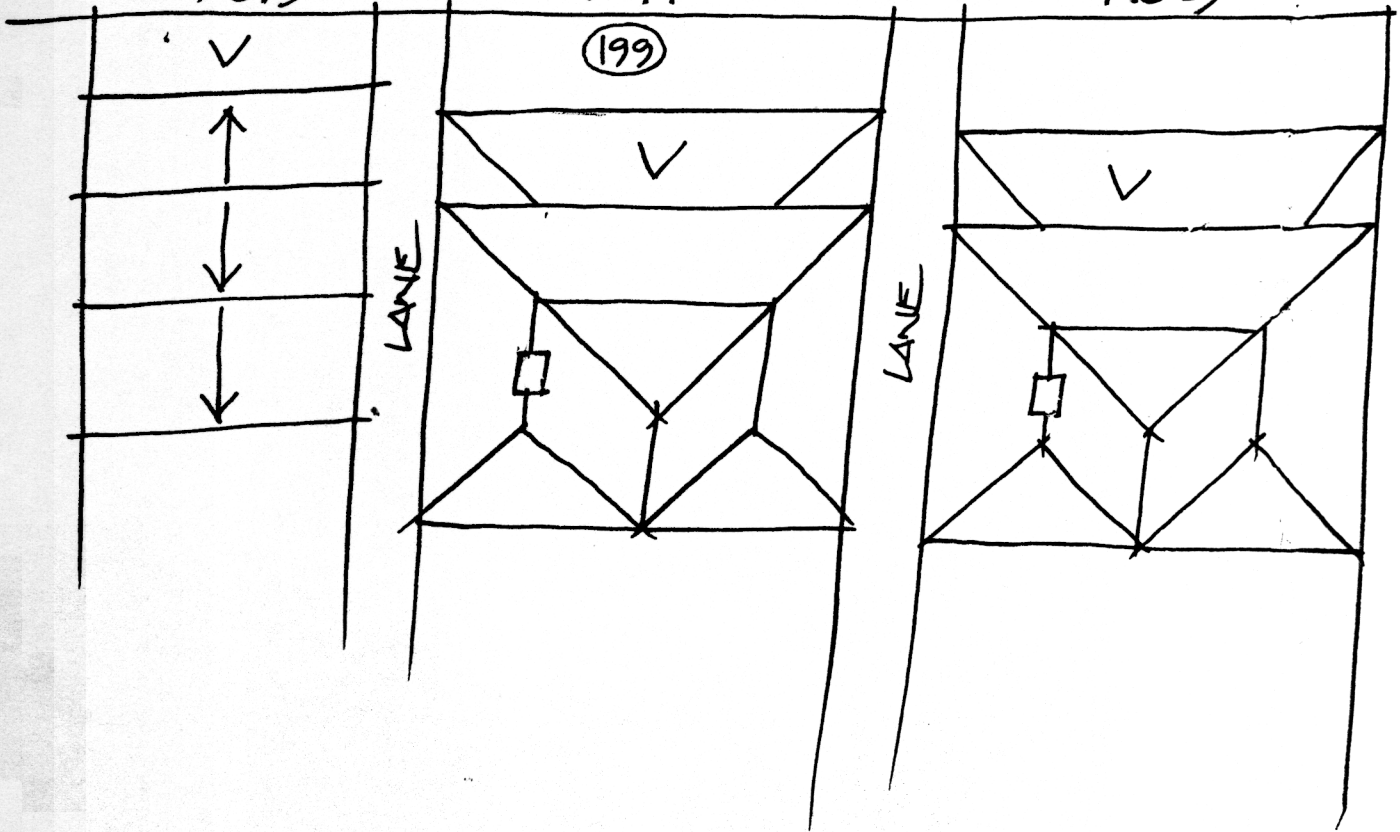
199

SAFFRON STREET

No 73

No 71

No 69



RP 16.3.97 NTS.

HISTORY: Built in 1893, this timber house with four rooms and a pantry was owned by John Gillies. It has a long history of tenancy as none of the owners prior to 1925 ever lived in the house. Gillies rented the house to Henry Martini, a vanman, then James McCarthy, a labourer. Around 1905 he sold to Helen Joyce who rented the house to William McAllister, a painter, before selling to Miss A Wood a few years later. Wood's tenants were George Boehm, a labourer, then Walter Eaton, a groom. The house still had only four rooms in the early 1920s, at which time Wood sold it to Leonora Sharp. In 1925 Sharp was renting the house to Arthur Beath, a shunter, and the land measured 26' x 80'.¹

On his wedding day, 5 March 1927, Mr George Edward Mitchell bought the house from Mr Sharpe for £525 (\$1,050). It took him nine years to pay off. The agent for the sale was Walter Carr of Mooroolool Street. Mr Mitchell worked in a foundry in Bond Street, Chilwell where gas jets were cast. His parents had lived indirectly behind this house, so he has lived in the immediate environment all of his life.²

VISUAL DESCRIPTION: A double-fronted symmetrical late Italianate timber house, with a hipped roof. The verandah across the front has a convex hipped roof with a cast-iron lace valance and brackets (possibly locally made in Chilwell³) on turned timber Tuscan timber posts with prismatic panels.⁴ The chimney is brown brick with a corbelled top. The frieze has ogee bracket pairs with lozenges and panels between. The ogee spouting appears to be original.

SIGNIFICANCE: A characteristic and particularly intact late Italianate house built in 1893, its verandah having some Edwardian elements. Interestingly it was rented for 34 years, then occupied by the present owner for the past 70 years. It is architecturally significant locally as representative of the late Italianate, domestic style, transitional to Edwardian and historically significant in embodying unpretentious working family life for a rental property in Newtown at the time of the financial crash and depression of the early 1890s. The long occupancy by the present owner is remarkable.

INTACTNESS: Excellent. The fence is recent, although it retains the original posts.

CONDITIONS & THREATS: Good.

¹ City of Newtown and Chilwell Ratebooks.

² Conversion of Mr Mitchell and his son with RP 16 March 1997 when he had lived in the house 70 years and 11 days. He had always thought the house was Edwardian and was surprised when I told him it was older. No 73 is even older, as it appears to be, and was built by a Chinese, he said.

³ Ibid.

⁴ These would appear to be Edwardian.