

Streetscape

The cornerstone of the important Royal crescent precinct and one of a group of large 19th century houses which still front this road, set in grounds. The hedge is a fine landscape element.

Significance

Historically, while not apparently prominent in local affairs, James Copeland's home extends our understanding of the successful investors who combined city business with rural land-holding and who made their homes beyond the urban fringe in Camberwell. His home is an important reminder of Camberwell's role before the arrival of the railway. For much of the house's existence it has been the home of regionally prominent businessmen and professionals: of regional importance.

Architecturally, of a small group of early Victorian houses which possess superposed cement colonnades and survive in grounds related to their original setting and scale. It is also contributory to the adjoining important Royal Crescent precinct: of State importance.

Clapham, 39 Prospect Hill Road



Study Grading: C

Precinct: 27.02 Streetscape: 2

Construction Date: 1902

First Owner: Paternoster, Simon

Builder: Green, F R

History

Frederick Green, the prolific Camberwell builder, erected this eight room brick dwelling for Simon Paternoster, a storekeeper, in 1901-2¹. Paternoster added to the house in 1905, again with Green's

assistance². Mrs. E Paternoster resided there well into the 1930's. Paternoster was 69 when he commenced to reside at Clapham, having retired from his two established general stores at Berwick and Pakenham³. His sons, Matthew and George carried on a business which he had commenced in the 1860's at Berwick, creating a business name which was already 'old', in a colonial sense, by 1900⁴.

Description

Clapham's design, although possessing the Queen Anne villa trappings of half timbered gables, terra-cotta ridges and casement window bays, still maintained the typical Victorian period villa form of two projecting room bays, connected by a return verandah, albeit built of timber. The verandah was attached to the house rather than under the main roof line and the chimney cornices were only half way to the common Edwardian forms. Unusual Fan-pattern brackets support the projecting eaves line at each bay and a nest of gables (attic balcony and ground levels) to the east elevation are distinctive aspects of the house, probably from the 1905 additions.

Comparative Examples

The following Camberwell sites may be compared with this site.

69, BROADWAY, 1900-1
20, BRYSON STREET, 1900
608, RIVERSDALE ROAD, 1900
1, SALISBURY STREET, 1900
5, VICTORIA ROAD, 1900
11, LUENA ROAD, 1900
42, BRYSON STREET, 1901
58, CANTERBURY ROAD, 1901
6, KINTORE STREET, 1901
23, ROYAL CRESCENT, 1901
35, BROADWAY, 1902
169, CANTERBURY ROAD, 1903-4
6, LOGAN STREET, 1903
142, MONT ALBERT ROAD, 1904
7, MANGARRA ROAD, 1905-6
24, CHAUCER CRESCENT, 1905
633, RIVERSDALE ROAD, 1906-8
27, BALWYN ROAD, 1906
58, BROADWAY, 1906
65, MONT ALBERT ROAD, 1906
73-75, BROADWAY, 1907
31, CHAUCER CRESCENT, 1907
17, THREADNEEDLE STREET, 1907
18, PEPPIN STREET, 1907
138, CANTERBURY ROAD, 1908-9
41, INCLESBY ROAD, 1908-9
10, SEFTON PLACE, 1908
41, INCLESBY ROAD, 1909-10
71, BROADWAY, 1909
73, BROADWAY, 1909
31, CANTERBURY ROAD, 1909
206, CANTERBURY ROAD, 1909
22, VICTORIA ROAD, 1909
1293, TOORAK ROAD, 1910-
8, ST. GEORGES CRESCENT, 1910
2, CLAYTON ROAD, 1910

1 BA 1899-1918, 226; RB 1901-2, 687; RB 1902-3, 714
2 BA 1899-1918, 578; MMBW DPA 47488
3 SLVB *Cyclopaedia of Victoria*, Vol.2, p.140
4 *ibid.*

199, WHITEHORSE ROAD, 1910c
 24, ALBION STREET, 1911
 17-19, BROADWAY, 1911
 96-98, UNTON ROAD, 1911
 24, KENT ROAD, 1912-13
 54, BROADWAY, 1912
 35, MATLOCK STREET, 1912
 648, BURKE ROAD, 1913-18
 6, KITCHENER STREET, 1913
 8, FITZGERALD STREET, 1915-20c
 127, WINMALEE ROAD, 1915-20c
 27A, ALMA ROAD, 1915
 76, ATHELSTAN ROAD, 1915
 347-349, WHITEHORSE ROAD, 1915c
 353, WHITEHORSE ROAD, 1915c
 150, WINMALEE ROAD, 1915c

External Integrity

The fence has been replaced and a garage added, both in a relatively sympathetic manner.

Streetscape

Near adjoining 35 Prospect Hill Road (q.v.) on the crest, a host of Bungalows on the east and opposite, two large Victorian period villas, this house complements the Edwardian and Victorian examples and relates to the Bungalows' gabled and tiled roof forms.

Significance

Architecturally, a generally original but common form of Queen Anne styled villas which possesses notable roof massing and detailing; of regional interest and local importance.

Historically, for a long period the retirement home of one of Victoria's early storekeepers.

Monda, 52 Prospect Hill Road



Study Grading: A

Precinct: 29.02 Streetscape: 2

- 1 RB 1895, 539; RB 1897, 526; RB 1899, 546
- 2 D1962
- 3 University Archives, Michell Papers; ADB Vol. 10, p.494
- 4 *ibid.*
- 5 WWA 1944, p.592
- 6 Wider significance than either local or regional

Construction Date: 1897

First Owner: Michell, John Henry academic

History

Simply recorded as allotment four, in 1896, it became a ten room brick house owned and occupied by the nationally prominent academic, John Henry Michell, by 1897¹. The house remained with the Michell (or Mitchell) family until at least the 1960's². John died in 1940, after retirement (c1891-) from academia in 1928.

Residing here with his brother Anthony G Michell, John was first

a mathematics lecturer at Melbourne University and later a professor (1923-), specializing in hydrodynamics, having previously been a fellow of Trinity College Cambridge³. The *Collected Works* of J H and A G M Michell was one outcome of both brothers invention. The other was ...'a remarkable garden, reminiscent of a tropical forest'. Palms, exotic (from South Africa) and native shrubs, a mulberry tree, feijoas, cumquats and guavas provided a truly international assortment which is today suggested by the profusion of original and later exotic planting. Other publications by John Michell included *Theory of Free Steam Lines* (1890), *The Highest Waves in Water* (1893), and *The Wave Resistance of a Ship*. These works gained him a reputation as 'one of the leading mathematicians in the world.' He was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1902.⁴

Anthony George Maldon Michell continued the consulting engineer practice, winning the James Watt International medal in 1942 and inventing the Michell Thrust and Journal Bearings and the Michell crankless engine along the way. He was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1934.⁵

Monda was the home of a leading educator. Over its history Camberwell has been home to many such figures and the Michell brothers form an interesting and for a time innovative team in scientific history.⁶

Description

A two storeyed Italianate styled villa with a two-level, concave roof cast-iron verandah. Ornament is restricted to cement swags and metopes under the eaves and the richly decorated iron verandah. A sympathetic picket fence has been erected at the frontage, and contains plantings of palms, locust, natives and loquat trees. An outbuilding (stable?) survives at the rear of the block.