

History

Herbert F. Parsons, of Parsons Brothers & Co., spice merchants, commissioned architects, Ussher & Kemp to design this house in 1909¹. The house was complete by the end of that year. Parsons remained there until well into the 1930's².

Description

With its broad, half-timbered and gabled main roof form and the skirt-like flared hip covering the verandah, this house approaches more than most Ussher & Kemp designs, the Far Eastern tea house prototype, so appropriate for this owner. Offsetting this tea-house symmetry is the gabled room bay, at the front elevation which terminates the slatted return verandah. A long verandah section opens onto the adjoining tennis court, whilst the section facing the front surveys a lawn and mature trees from the period. An extensive half-timbered gable juts out to the east, dormers in the rear roof look to the north and a single-storey verandah service wing extends out towards a sympathetically designed garage. Mature trees at the front and side and a Cordyline at the rear are supportive of the period as are paint colours to the house.

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, 1900c
 42, BRYSON STREET, 1901
 58, CANTERBURY ROAD, 1901
 6, KINTORE STREET, 1901
 23, ROYAL CRESCENT, 1901
 35, BROADWAY, 1902
 39, PROSPECT HILL ROAD, 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, 1907c
 138, CANTERBURY ROAD, 1908-9
 41, INGLESBY ROAD, 1908-9
 10, SEFTON PLACE, 1908
 41, INGLESBY ROAD, 1909-10
 71, BROADWAY, 1909
 73, BROADWAY, 1909
 206, CANTERBURY ROAD, 1909
 22, VICTORIA ROAD, 1909

1 MMBW DPA 67187; WD 1899-1900
 2 D1935

External Integrity

The fence has been replaced, steel windows fitted to the eastern gable and a window wall to a minor wing of the south elevation.

Streetscape

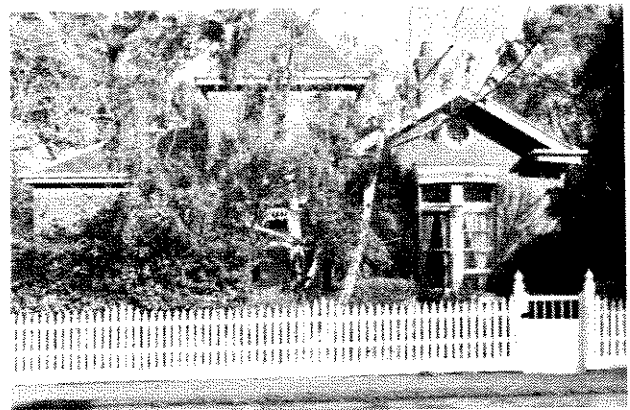
Masked by the mature garden and high fence, the main impact of the house is to the east (due to the skewed site placement) where its neighbours are of mixed period, mainly 20th century. In theory it relates to the opposing corners, a Bungalow (60) and the Queen Anne flavoured design at 58 (q.v.) also the houses adjoining on the west (numbers 29 and 27).

Significance

Architecture, a successful and intact design from the masters of the American born Queen Anne villa style (Ussher & Kemp) which, on its corner site, is well disposed for viewing the four elevations of its design and complementary to nearby individually notable and near contemporary houses: of state importance.

History, the owner represents the mainstream of the study area's Edwardian influx by his occupation and choice of house style: of local importance.

Rosstrevor, 58 Canterbury Road



Precinct: 26.03 Streetscape: 2
 Construction Date: 1901
 First Owner: Watts, Thomas J

History

Thomas J. Watts was the first rated owner of this eight room brick house, in 1901, leasing it to an insurance inspector, Arthur J. Murray and subsequently to the Flinders Street indian- rubber

manufacturer Ernest C. Perdriau¹. Thomas Watts was a newsagent and crockery dealer of East St. Kilda².

Description

Aptly designed for its corner site, the house nevertheless belies its construction date by the use of a design more typical of the previous decade. The tower with its squat hipped roof nevertheless conveys the French influence seen in the contemporary Queen Anne style as do the corbelled chimney tops and red brick walls. However the verandah and main roof forms echo the previous Italianate style although the cast-iron pattern is typical of c1900. The gabled bays, with their louvred roof vents centred on each wall, are distinctive.

The fence is sympathetic to the original, as is the garden. A mature gum in the rear yard is notable for its apparent age.

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138, CANTERBURY ROAD, 1908-9
41, INGLESBY ROAD, 1908-9
10, SEFTON PLACE, 1908
41, INGLESBY 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, 1910c
199, WHITEHORSE ROAD, 1910c
24, ALBION STREET, 1911
17-19, BROADWAY, 1911
96-98, UNION 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 house is generally original, with the exception of the fence.

Streetscape

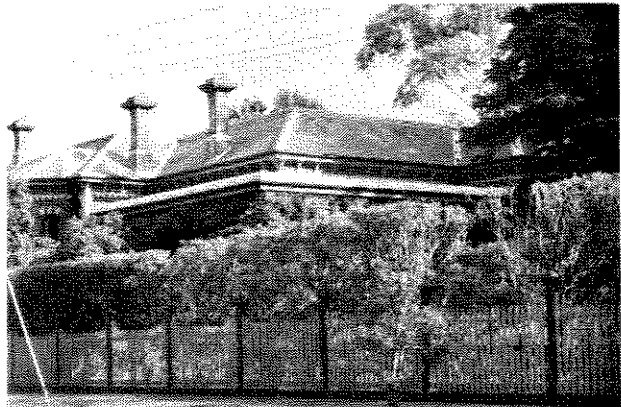
Set on a corner and best viewed from the downhill eastern approach, the house's towered form is both prominent and visually suitable. Late Victorian period villas are opposite and adjacent to the house.

Significance

Architecturally, of a later or transitional stylistic theme but nevertheless distinctively designed (presumably by an architect), well suited to its site and near original; of regional importance.

Historically, little is known of Watts or his tenants in the context of Camberwell.

Ericstane, 136 Canterbury Road



Study Grading: B
Construction Date: 1893
First Owner: Grieve, John

History

John Grieve, who was described as a gentleman (retired), owned and occupied this nine room brick house, on allotments 1 and 22 of the Griffin Estate, from 1893 until 1898 when it was leased to manufacturer Burdett Laycock³. After a short

1 RB1901-2, 1152; RB1903-4, 1206; WD1899-1900
2 WD1899-1900
3 RB1893-4, 1123; RB1898-9, 1036; RB1899-1900, 1114