

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 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

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 1897<sup>1</sup>. The house remained with the Michell (or Mitchell) family until at least the 1960's<sup>2</sup>. 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 Cambridge<sup>3</sup>. 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.<sup>4</sup>

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.<sup>5</sup>

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.<sup>6</sup>

### 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.

- 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

### Comparative Examples

The following Camberwell sites may be compared with this site.

35, PROSPECT HILL ROAD, 1881  
 630, RIVERSDALE ROAD, 1882  
 2, BERWICK STREET, 1885c  
 53, PROSPECT HILL ROAD, 1886-7  
 320, CAMBERWELL ROAD, 1886  
 3, FERMANAGH ROAD, 1887  
 57, SEYMOUR GROVE, 1887  
 33, ALMA ROAD, 1888  
 19, CANTERBURY ROAD, 1888  
 46, PARLINGTON STREET, 1888  
 635, RIVERSDALE ROAD, 1888  
 89, UNION ROAD, 1888  
 2, PEPPIN STREET, 1889 (?)  
 25, ALMA ROAD, 1889(?)  
 54, MONT ALBERT ROAD, 1889-9  
 36, ALMA ROAD, 1889  
 208, CANTERBURY ROAD, 1889  
 15, IRILBARRA ROAD, 1889  
 21, IRILBARRA ROAD, 1889  
 43, KENT ROAD, 1889  
 2, MOLESWORTH STREET, 1889  
 137, MONT ALBERT ROAD, 1889  
 32, PROSPECT HILL ROAD, 1889  
 10, TRAFALGAR ROAD, 1889  
 26A, WANDSWORTH ROAD, 1889  
 50, WANDSWORTH ROAD, 1889  
 42, WARRICAL ROAD, 1889  
 322-394, CAMBERWELL ROAD, 1890-1  
 262, UNION ROAD, 1890/1900  
 15, ALMA ROAD, 1890  
 544, BURKE ROAD, 1890  
 27, INGLESBY ROAD, 1890  
 7, VICTORIA AVENUE, 1890  
 13, VICTORIA AVENUE, 1890  
 57, YARRBAT AVENUE, 1890c?  
 7A, ALMA ROAD, 1891-2  
 13, BALWYN ROAD, 1891-4  
 73-79, BALWYN ROAD, 1891  
 320, CAMBERWELL ROAD, 1892  
 622, RIVERSDALE ROAD, 1892  
 6, TRAFALGAR ROAD, 1892  
 125, WATTLE VALLEY ROAD, 1892  
 136, CANTERBURY ROAD, 1893  
 668-670, BURKE ROAD, 1895  
 680, BURKE ROAD, 1895  
 816-822, RIVERSDALE ROAD, 1895  
 30, HOWARD STREET, 1895c  
 29, CANTERBURY ROAD, 1897  
 15, KASOUKA ROAD, 1898  
 150, MONT ALBERT ROAD, 1899  
 26, VICTORIA AVENUE, 1899

### External Integrity

The house is generally original, except glazing on the ground level, north side and painted brickwork (outbuilding); the fence has been replaced sympathetically.

### Streetscape

The house adjoins a largely Edwardian villa precinct and opposes a much renovated Victorian villa. Its profuse planting is the most visible aspect

of this corner site, linking the two street frontages by its association with exotic street planting and adjoining gardens.

### Significance

Architecturally, a large, prominent and near complete, if late example of a common villa style (Italianate) which is distinguished by its lush exotic setting deriving from 19th century plantings; of regional importance.

Historically, by its profuse exotic garden directly, and by implication, it is expressive of its first owners' academic pursuits, these pursuits being of importance in the academic realms of 19th century Australia and evocative of the prevalence of educators in Camberwell; of regional importance.

### Ubberholme, 53 Prospect Hill Road



Study Grading: C

Precinct: 27.03 Streetscape: 2

Construction Date: 1886-87

First Owner: Law, James Donaldson

Architect: Law, W S (?)

### History

The eventual general manager of the Bank of Victoria, James Donaldson Law, was the first owner of this house in 1886, then described as a brick house sited on three allotments of the Prospect Hill Estate (18-20) measuring 180 feet by 274 feet<sup>1</sup>. Later descriptions credited it with 11 rooms<sup>2</sup> and the 1904 MMBW *Detail Plan* showed it as Ubberholme<sup>3</sup>. The same plan had an ox-bow shaped driveway from Prospect Hill Road, reaching a side entrance facing Stanhope Grove. A verandah extended across the front as it does today

1 RB1885-6,573; RB1886-7,636

2 RB1898-9,703

3 MMBW DP1859