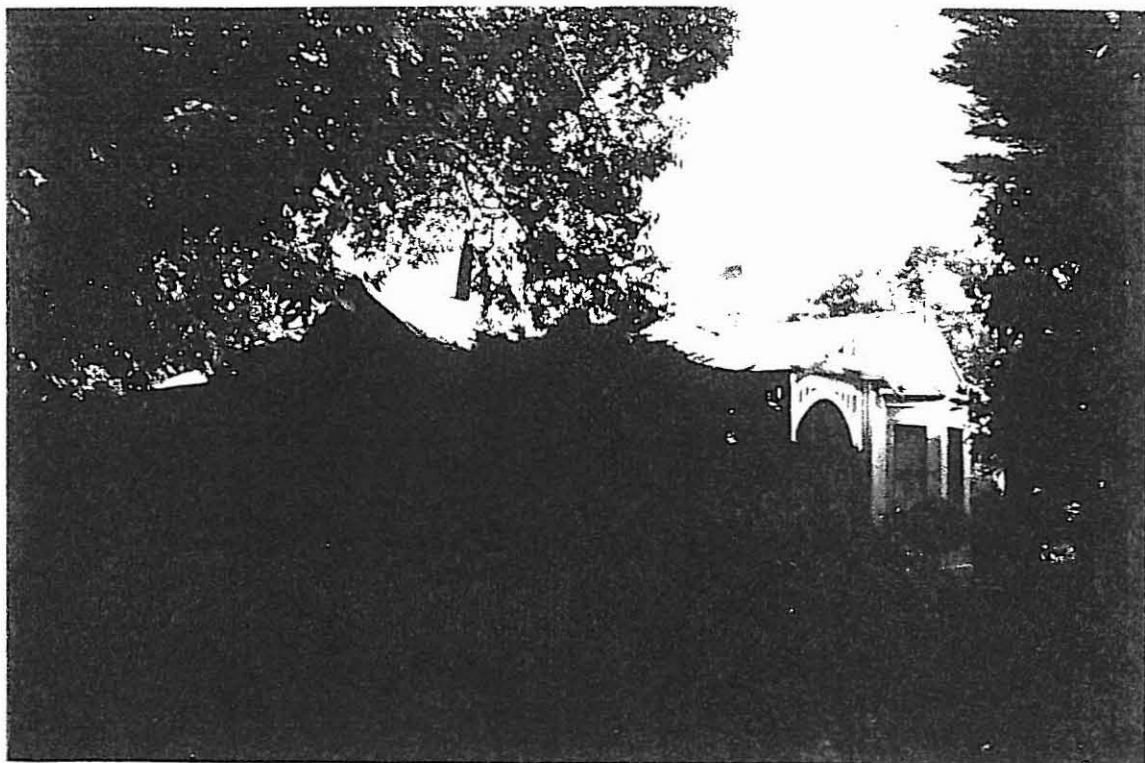


BACCHUS MARSH HERITAGE STUDY.

Ref: 167

Richard Peterson Architect & Conservation Consultant. Daniel Catrice Historian 1994.

NAME: Waratah.		
ADDRESS: 267 Avenue of Honour.		
TITLE DETAILS:		
USE: House		
SIGNIFICANT DATE:	CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1878	SOURCE: 1
ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS:	DATE: 1908	SOURCE: 1
DESIGNER: 1908: A.S. Eggleston		
CRITERIA: H1,3,5; Ar 1	HISTORIC THEME: Townships	
DESCRIPTION:	STYLE: Victorian/Californian Bungalow	STORIES: 1
DETACHED.		
MATERIALS:	WALLS Roughcast brick	ROOF Iron
		STRUCTURE Lb
CONDITION: Excellent	INTACTNESS: Good	THREATS: -
SIGNIFICANT INTACT ELEMENTS:		
FORM. FACADE. VERANDAH. ROOF FORM.		
EAVES DECORATION. ROOF DECORATION. VERANDAH DECORATION.		
CHIMNEYS. DOORS. WINDOWS. PAINTWORK SCHEME.		
STREET FURNITURE. HEDGES.		
SIGNIFICANCE:		
TYPE: HISTORICAL. ARCHITECTURAL.		
LEVEL: LOCAL.		
DESIGNATION EXISTING: Nil		
RECOMMENDED CONTROL: PLANNING SCHEME.		
MAP NO: U5.07	SURVEY: RP, JS	DATE: 19.1.94
		NEGS: 13.19



HISTORY: This brick house was erected in two stages for the local entrepreneur, Ebenezer Pearce. The rear section was built about 1878, the front section, "an adaptation of Baronial English architecture"(!)¹ was completed in 1908 (In the same year, T.H. Pearce son of Thomas George, built No. 239, ref: 163). Designed by Alec Stanley Eggleston, the front portion of the house received favourable attention in the local press: "spacious arches, bow windows, galleried verandah, rough stucco work, and stained glass windows" combined to create a residence of great distinction.² Eggleston was an important domestic architect practising in Melbourne from 1903 until 1937. He practised with Percy Oakley, then J.D. Overend and finally his son, Robert who founded the present firm, Eggleston McDonald.³

Ebenezer Pearce, and his brother Thomas George (ref: 168), entered the family business, a general store and bakery, which their father had established in the 1850s. The entrepreneurial brothers opened a branch store in 1881, and over the succeeding decade, established a brickworks, a chaff mill and a chicory drying kiln (ref: 88). The memorial gates at Maddingley Park (ref: 356), erected by family members in 1922, acknowledge the personal and professional gains made by the brothers in Bacchus Marsh.

VISUAL DESCRIPTION: A late Victorian Picturesque Gothic villa, rectangular in plan and rendered brick. The chimneys (unpainted) have Classical mouldings. Gable ends have curved Gothic decoration and finials and at right is a canted bay.

In front of this is a roughcast Californian Bungalow addition. It has a half-hip roof, and is triple-fronted. The centre bay is set forward as a gable. The upper section has timbered rails. There are roughcast pylon chimneys with pots. The verandah at right is an angle to the side entrance, which projects as a gable. The timber verandah has a curved valance of vertical rails and Doric posts. The entry is arched red tuck-pointed bricks with label-moulds.

The Garden. The garden has elements remnant of the periods of the house.

The property is enclosed with a well clipped and maintained evergreen coniferous hedge, behind a closed picket fence. The height of the hedge is maintained to 3.0 to 3.5 metres.

Hedge species:

Cupressus torulosa

Bhutan Cypress

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS: This house forms a pair with Pearce's brother's house built four years later, next door (ref: 169). Of the 44 late nineteenth century houses identified in Bacchus Marsh in the Study, there are several in this broad stylistic category including Stone Villa (ref: 212). There are 26 Californian Bungalows identified. This work

¹ *Bacchus Marsh Express*, ?? September 1908.

² *Ibid.*

³ Miles Lewis, *Architectural Survey. First Report* University of Melbourne, Melbourne 1977 pp33 & 34.

is very early as a Bungalow. Comparable Eggleston houses are 17 Dudley Street, Brighton (1915, with Oakley) and for T.S. Pritchett at Balwyn, (1910).⁴ Eggleston also designed 105 Main Street (1913, ref: 147) in the same year.

SIGNIFICANCE: A brick late Victorian Picturesque Gothic villa built in 1878 for Ebenezer Pearce, now one of three houses for this family in this vicinity. In front is a roughcast brick, particularly early, Californian Bungalow addition, an early design by the important Melbourne domestic architect, Alec Stanley Eggleston. There is a good Bhutan Cypress (*Cupressus torulosa*) hedge.

It is of local historical significance as an interesting, yet still representative embodiment of the way of life and social values of two historical periods: the late Victorian and late Edwardian. It demonstrates association with the important and influential figure of Ebenezer Pearce and also a changing sequence of architectural styles. With the other two Pearce houses (refs: 163 & 168), it forms a group associated with the family (see map).

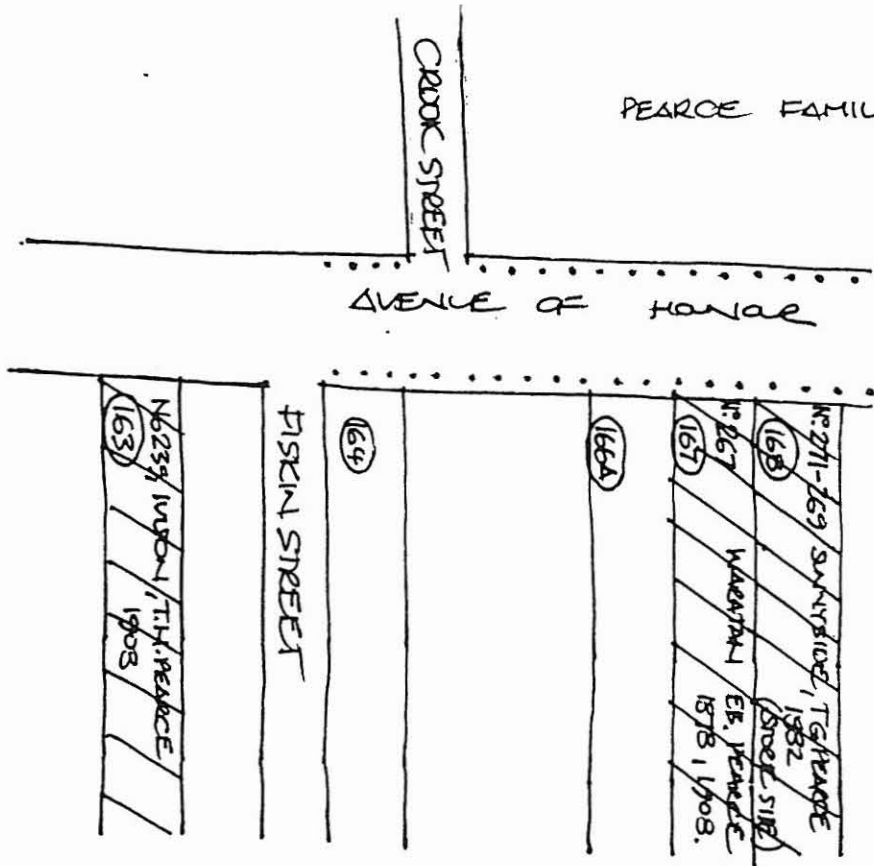
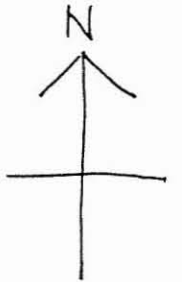
Architecturally it is significant as both an early work of Eggleston and a particularly early Californian Bungalow style work.

INTACTNESS: The render is generally painted. Garden, gates and fence are generally recent, but very good and sympathetic.

CONDITIONS & THREATS: Excellent.

⁴ John Clare, "The Post Federation House in Melbourne, Bungalow and Vernacular Revival Styles 1900-1930", University of Melbourne, Melbourne 1984, p.50.

PEARCE FAMILY HOUSES



AVENUE OF HONOUR

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