
Name	<i>Lumeah</i>	Reference No	
Address	1 Denmark Street, Kew	Survey Date	23 August 2005
Building Type	Residence	Grading	B
Date	1894	Previous Grading	B



Extent of Overlay

To title boundaries.

Intactness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor	
Heritage Status	<input type="checkbox"/> HV	<input type="checkbox"/> AHC	<input type="checkbox"/> NT	<input type="checkbox"/> Rec. BPS Heritage Overlay

History

The red brick house on the corner of Denmark Street and Barkers Road was built for J Bishop in 1894.¹ Originally the house was 166 Denmark Street, but after a street renumbering in 1913-14, it changed to its current street number.² Mrs Sarah Manson purchased the house in 1899 and by 1903 (if not before), the house was known as *Lumeah*.³ For a number of years in this period, the house was let to tenants, with Mrs Manson occupying the house from 1905; at this time it was described as comprising seven rooms, with a pantry, bath and scullery.⁴ Mrs Manson lived there until her death in 1921.⁵ Her daughter, Miss Katie Manson, continued to live in the house until 1942.⁶ From the mid-1940s until the mid-1950s, the house was owned and occupied by Mrs Ada M Waddell, before Mrs A J MacCallum (1956-7) and Miss Constance Mary Stewart (1958-69) were listed as the occupants.⁷ From 1970, the occupant of the house was not listed in the *Sands and McDougall Directory of Victoria*.

(G Butler & Associates, Kew B-graded buildings study (draft), 2001, additional research by Lovell Chen, 2005)

Description & Integrity

Lumeah, 1 Denmark Street, Kew, is a single-storey, double-fronted Federation villa of tuckpointed red face brick construction. The bracketed gabled roof is generally clad with slate, however some areas to the rear have been replaced with corrugated galvanised steel. Red brick chimneys have rendered ridging and moulded caps and gable ends are clad with fish scale shingling; the finials have been removed. The return verandah is clad with corrugated galvanised steel and features turned timber posts, delicate timber fretwork and tessellated tile floor with bluestone edging and steps. The northern bay of the verandah is enclosed with later timber-framed glazing. The symmetrical façade contains a central entrance, marked by a projecting bay in the verandah, with panelled timber door, glazed fan and sidelights, and matching timber-framed screen door. Each bay contains a pair of tall timber-framed double-hung sash windows with multi-paned top sashes and highlights. The south

elevation fronts Barkers Road and comprises a pair of projecting gabled bays to the west with the return verandah to the east.

Alterations appear to be limited to removal of finials, some new roofing, removal of some verandah post bases and part glazed infill, and the construction of new front and side fences.

The front entrance is flanked by a pair of liquidambar (*Liquidambar styraciflua*).

Historical Context

The eastern side of Denmark Street, which originally backed onto the railway line, was previously owned by Xavier College, who subdivided and sold the land during the first decade of the twentieth century.⁸ The vacant land was developed in subsequent years and is characterised by large detached and semi-detached brick villas, sited on generous allotments with uniform setbacks.

Comparative Analysis

1 Denmark Street, Kew, can be compared with its similarly scaled and aged neighbour, 3 Denmark Street. Where No. 3 is a double-fronted asymmetrical design, No. 1 is basically symmetrical, and is dominated by two large bays. It is a relatively early design in the development of Federation architecture, and its general form resembles (albeit in larger dimensions), a symmetrical double-winged house with a central porch in Surrey Hills, designed by AB Rieusset, an early proponent of the Federation style, in 1890.⁹ 1 Denmark Street's composition, with its two wings and a central gabled porch, also looks forward to the attic-storeyed Federation houses with large dormer-balconies that became common in Kew after c. 1905, including, for example, the radially-planned 2 Denmark Street opposite, and Christopher Cowper's No. 8 Denmark Street, of 1912-13 (both B-graded), and A-graded examples such as 17 Selbourne Road, Kew, of 1914.¹⁰ In those later designs the porch gable as seen in No. 1 was simply shifted from the ground floor and installed in the roofline as a balcony dormer. The porches were usually then left under a verandah-skillion. The vertical strapwork on the chimneys was a characteristic of early Federation architecture, though their rendering is less usual, and the bold and similarly rendered wall striping, particularly on the Barkers Road elevation, evokes rendered versions of High Victorian striping or quoining, as with Guyon Purchas' 63 Cotham Road, now the Kew RSL, of 1886 (A-graded).¹¹

Assessment Against Criteria

Amended Heritage Victoria Criteria

CRITERION D: The importance of a place or object in exhibiting the principal characteristics or the representative nature of a place or object as a part of a class or type of places or objects.

1 Denmark Street is a fine and externally relatively intact exemplar of early Federation forms and detailing, with its strapworked chimneys, fretworked porch, paired flanking gable wings, transverse roof hip, and inventive, asymmetrical elevation to Barkers Road. The design of the house also looks forward to the later attic-gabled dormer type seen commonly in Boroondara, and particularly in Kew,

Statement of Significance

1 Denmark Street, Kew, is of local historical and architectural significance as a fine and externally relatively intact exemplar of early Federation forms and detailing, with its strapworked chimneys, fretworked porch, paired flanking gable wings, transverse roof hip, and inventive, asymmetrical elevation to Barkers Road. The design of the house also looks forward to the later attic-gabled dormer type seen commonly in Boroondara, and particularly in Kew. The house makes a strong contribution to the intact and impressive group of Federation houses at the lower end of Denmark Street.

Grading Review

Unchanged.

Recommendations

Recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay of the Boroondara Planning Scheme.

In addition, it is recommended that Council undertake a detailed review of the housing stock in the broader area including both sides of Denmark Street between Barkers Road and High Street, Foley Street and the section of Barkers Road bounded by High Street and Power Street, and the northern side of Barkers Road between High Street and Denmark Street. Depending on the outcome of this review, consideration should be given to identifying a Heritage Overlay precinct. While only 5 houses were graded B in the 1988 Kew Conservation Study (1, 2 and 8 Denmark Street, 48 Foley Street and 83-85 Barkers Road), the broader area contains three B-graded institutional/retail properties and substantial numbers of C-graded houses from the Victorian and Federation periods, many of which appear to be broadly intact and were graded C in the 1988 Study.

Identified By

Pru Sanderson Design Pty Ltd, Kew Urban Conservation Study, 1988.

References

General: Pru Sanderson Design Pty Ltd, Kew Urban Conservation Study, 1988; G Butler & Associates, Kew B-graded places study (draft), 2001.

Specific:

¹ Borough of Kew Rate Books, 1894-5, #2255.

² Borough of Kew Rate Books, 1913-14, # 3192.

³ Borough of Kew Rate Books, 1898-99, #2271. The house name, *Lumeah*, is noted on MMBW Detail Plan #1296, published in 1903.

⁴ Borough of Kew Rate Books, 1905.

⁵ Death Index, Victoria, 1921-85

⁶ City of Kew Rate Books, 1921-22, #5064; Death Index, Victoria, 1921-85.

⁷ Sands and McDougall Directory of Victoria, various years, 1955-1974.

⁸ Pru Sanderson Design Pty Ltd, Kew Urban Conservation Study, 1988, p. 4/9.

⁹ Illustrated in the *Australasian Builder and Contractor's News*, 1890. A slide of this design is held in the Slide and Multimedia Library, Monash University. It is not known whether this was built.

¹⁰ Details sourced from Pru Sanderson, City of Kew Urban Conservation Study, 1988, Citation 49 (Selbourne Road)

¹¹ City of Kew Urban Conservation Study, 1988, Citation 15.