
Name	House	Reference No	
Address	75 Studley Park Road, Kew	Survey Date	20 September 2005
Building Type	Residence	Grading	B
Date	1938	Previous Grading	B



Extent of Overlay

To title boundaries.

Intactness ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor

Heritage Status ☐ HV ☐ AHC ☐ NT ☐ Rec. BPS Heritage Overlay

History

The site of 75 (originally 71) Studley Park Road, Kew, was formed as part of the subdivision of the grounds of a large brick residence¹ built for Charles Lister in c.1882.² The earlier residence was demolished in c.1936.³ The subsequent subdivision, referred to as the "Iona" Estate, in a plan promoting the sale of the subdivided land, consisted of five blocks with Studley Park Road frontage - of which the subject property was lot 4 - and a further ten blocks serviced by a new access road, Berkeley Court.⁴ Construction upon the new allotments soon commenced - two houses were under construction in Berkeley Court during 1937.⁵ The two-storeyed brick residence at the corner of Berkeley Court - 75 Studley Park Road - was designed by architects Marsh & Michaelson, for owner James Ross in 1938.⁶ The house was occupied by Ross until at least 1974.⁷

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

Description & Integrity

The house at 75 Studley Park Road, Kew, is a large two storey interwar residence of clinker brick construction in the Old English Revival style. The steeply pitched gabled roof is finished with glazed terracotta tiles, with dentilled brickwork to the eaves and is punctuated by tall brick chimneys with octagonal form and corbelled caps; prominent gables feature half-timbering with tapestry brick herringbone and basketweave patterned nogging. The asymmetrical composition addresses the corner siting with principal elevations to the north and west. Each elevation comprises projecting and recessed bays with a recessed entrance porch located in the north-west corner. This bay also features a jettied first floor level with half timbering and tapestry brick nogging. The entrance is screened by a pair of wrought iron gates and lit by a wrought iron coach lamp. Fenestration is irregular and with the exception of one bay window the windows comprise timber-framed double-hung and fixed sashes with

diaper leadlight glazing. Alterations appear limited and include canvas awning blinds and the non-original sections of fence.

The frontages are bounded by the original low clinker brick fence which has a corner entrance with wrought iron pedestrian gate. The fence has been extended more recently, albeit at a higher level, along the western side of the house. The front garden includes stone crazy paving and steps and some mature plantings amongst an otherwise recent landscape.

Historical Context

Studley Park Road, a prominent 'entrance' road to Kew, has been favoured from the earliest years of district settlement as the setting for gracious homes on large land holdings, favoured by the affluent. Studley Park Road provides evidence today of the full gamut of residential development which has affected the municipality; from large homes set in spacious grounds to the later subdivisions of the early and mid twentieth century, comprising inter-war and post-war houses as well as modern flat development.

Comparative Analysis

The house at 75 Studley Park Road, Kew, is broadly comparable with neighbouring properties at numbers 1 and 2 Berkeley Street, Kew, both ungraded. While these two houses are of a more modest scale and siting, they nonetheless share similar periods of construction, and a similarity of overall style, form and detail. Further afield, the property can also be compared with 8 Milfay Avenue, Kew, (B-graded, recommended to be downgraded to C), a more eclectic and unconventional composition with French Provincial elements. No. 75 is, however, richer in texture and in its constructional technique than these examples.

Howard Street, Kew contains a small precinct of Old English Revival houses, including numbers 13, 19, 21, 23 and 25. Of these, only 19 Howard Street is B graded; this house is a good example in the revival idiom which differs from the subject property in its employment of Tudor forms and details, and in its conspicuous use of stucco nogging. In Boroondara more generally, 75 Studley Park Road compares with Marcus Barlow's imposing *Colinton* at 96 Mont Albert Road, of 1926, (A-graded), and with 660 Riversdale Road Camberwell (q.v., B-graded), a similarly massed design with tapestry brick in a similarly vivid colour patterning and texture. 7 Muriel Street, Glen Iris, by Harold Desbrowe-Annear in 1932 (q.v., B-graded), is similar in dimensions but more direct and articulate in its massing. Most of the detail matches that of other well-financed Old English designs of this period.

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.

75 Studley Park Road, Kew, is a good and externally relatively intact example of a two-storey brick house in the Old English Style as applied to Melbourne houses of the 1930s. It incorporates a range of forms and details associated with the style. The house retains its original front fence, path and steps.

CRITERION E: The importance of the place or object in exhibiting good design or aesthetic characteristics and/or in exhibiting a richness, diversity or unusual integration of features.

75 Studley Park Road, Kew, is distinctive in the liveliness of its brick colouration and texture.

Statement of Significance

75 Studley Park Road, Kew is of local historical and architectural significance as a good and externally relatively intact example of a two-storey brick house in the Old English Style as expressed in Melbourne houses of the 1930s. It incorporates a range of forms and details associated with the style and is distinctive in the liveliness of its brick colouration and texture. The house retains its original front fence, path and steps.

Grading Review

Unchanged.

Recommendations

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

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 MMBW Plan no. 40, Collingwood & Kew, scale 160':1", dated c. 1904.

² *Sands & McDougall Directory of Victoria*, various years between 1880–1900.

³ Pru Sanderson Design Pty Ltd, *Kew Urban Conservation Study*, 1988, vol. 2, p. 4/20.

⁴ 'Iona' Estate, Studley Park, Batten & Percy Collection, State Library of Victoria.

⁵ *Sands & McDougall Directory of Victoria*, 1936, 1937 & 1938.

⁶ Plans and a perspective view of the newly-completed house were published in the *Age*, 18 August 1938; cited in the Miles Lewis Australian Architectural Index.

⁷ *Sands & McDougall Directory of Victoria*, various years between 1940-1974.