
Name	House	Reference No	
Address	458 Camberwell Road, Camberwell	Survey Date	2 September 2005
Building Type	Residence	Grading	B
Date	1933-4	Previous Grading	B



Extent of Overlay

To title boundaries.

Intactness ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor

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

History

Frederick G. Woods, an auctioneer, commissioned builder C. J. Smith to erect this house in 1933. It was to cost £1,290 and house over 20 squares of floor area.¹

Approval was given for the addition of a flat-roofed projecting bay window in 1962 and for the construction of a carport in 1965.

(G Butler, Camberwell Conservation Study 1991, additional research by Lovell Chen, 2005)

Description & Integrity

The house at 458 Camberwell Road is in clinker brick with two gabled wings, one single and the other two-storied. The site is oddly shaped, in a wedge form with a square extension to the west, with the entrance to the main house placed at the intersection of these two shapes. The roof is steeply pitched, clad in terra cotta Marseilles tiles and marked asymmetrically by two tall chimneys. One is at the rear of the east wing; the other, at the front end of the west wing, broadens into a chimney-breast in two asymmetrical steps - a common 1930s Tudor motif in Melbourne generally. The lower roof to the rear is a lean-to. The chimneys have plain corbelled tops giving a slight Tudor reference; other Tudor notes are in half timbering over the first floor level east bay and the garage gable below, and on the main upper gables. On the east gable half-timbering is combined with a herringbone pattern in Roman-thickness brick. On the garage, the half-timbering is coupled with shingles under the bargeboard. Tapestry brick forms voussoir and quoin patterns round the entry arch and porch.

At first floor level the east wing gable front appears to be a glassed-in former balcony, its windows having a differing frame thickness from those on the rest of the house. The other windows are either double-hung sashes or leadlight portholes, three arranged together by the entrance and another on the upstairs main wing. Two windows are placed either side of the west wing chimney, suggesting an

ingle, and these are marked out with different lead lighting from that of the portholes. The garage doors are original in plain vertical planking, each with a slit window in stippled glass.

The building is broadly intact externally to its original form (other than for the enclosure of the first floor balcony on the east elevation). The only other major addition has been a bay window with a flat roof added on the north-west side in 1962. A standard steel carport, added in 1965,² stands to one side of the driveway, clear of the house's front elevation. The fence is original and is partly a low retaining wall, in a clinker brick matching that of the house.

Historical Context

Camberwell underwent intensive residential development in the interwar period, particularly in the 1930s. Much of this development came in the form of builder-designed houses such as 458 Camberwell Road.

Comparative Analysis

This is one of many Tudor-flavoured houses in the Camberwell area, of which Marcus Barlow's Gillespie house in Mont Albert Road, Canterbury, is arguably the most notable³. 14 Stodart Street Camberwell is closer to 458 Camberwell Road in its budget and resources and site size, but is stiff and static by comparison.⁴ The builder-designer of 458 Camberwell Road achieved a well-sculpted form and rhythm without overcrowding the composition. Houses of this period often had side gates linked to the main house form with a masonry arch, but this house is somewhat atypical in having a carefully integrated garage in its front elevation. The use of tapestry brick dressing is common in this area and in Glen Iris, but is more usually set against white or pale-painted roughcast wall rendering rather than brick as is the case here.

Assessment Against Criteria

Amended Heritage Victoria Criteria

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.

The house is a fine local example of an interwar suburban residence combining contemporary Tudor references. The house is early in having a garage integrated into its front elevation, and a staggered driveway that fits the garden contours. The builder shows an assurance in proportions and a command of architectural episodes in ensemble.

Statement of Significance

Stratford, at 458 Camberwell Road, Camberwell, is of local historical and architectural significance as a fine and generally intact example of an interwar suburban residence combining contemporary Tudor references. The careful integration of a garage into the front elevation of the house is of note and the survival of the original fence and driveway configuration contributes to the setting of the house.

Grading Review

Unchanged.

Recommendations

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

Identified By

G Butler, Camberwell Conservation Study, 1991.

References

General: G Butler, Camberwell Conservation Study, 1991

Specific:

¹ MMBW Drainage Plan Application 192486; City of Camberwell Building Index, # 3575, 27 September 1933, Electoral Roll, 1934.

² Details sourced from the City of Camberwell Building Index, # 31723, dated 17 September 1962; # 36486, dated 27 January 1965.

³ G Butler, City of Camberwell Conservation Study 1991, v. 4, p. 194-5. See also Marcus Barlow's *Australian Bungalows*, Melbourne, 1926.

⁴ G Butler, City of Camberwell Conservation Study 1991, v.4, p. 264.