

PLACE IDENTIFICATION FORM

ADDRESS

11 Elmie Street

TYPE

- Single Residence
- Shop
- Office
- Landscape feature
- View
- Multiple Unit Res.
- Outbuildings
- Industrial Building
- Public building
- Other

TITLE

"Kilcreggan"

EXISTING DESIGNATION

HBR [] GBR [] AHC [] NT [] VAS []

STREETSCAPE LEVEL

1 [] 2 [] 3 []
 SIGNIFICANT [] SIGNIFICANT []
 STREET TREES KERB & GUTTERS

GRADING

A [] B [] C [] D [] E []
 KEYNOTE BUILDING []

RECOMMENDED FOR

HBR/GBR [] AHC [] URBAN CONSERVATION AREA []
 VAS [] PLANNING SCHEME PROTECTION []
 CULTURAL LANDSCAPE [] OTHER []

SURVEY DATE June 91.

NEG FILE 05.14.

Title
 Vol.
 Fol.

THEME

- Early Settlement
- Mansions
- Victorian Garden Suburb
- Municipal dev.
- 1870s growth
- Garden villas
- Working enclaves
- Commercial Centres
- Edwardian Prosperity
- Interwar Housing
- Flats and Offices



CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Date 1896-1897

Architect

Builder

Elements -

House and garden

- Contributing garden
- Landmark tree
- Original or early hard landscape layout
- Original or early fence

NOTABLE FEATURES/SIGNIFICANCE

See attached

INTEGRITY Good []
 Fair []
 Poor []

CONDITION Good []
 Fair []
 Poor []

CROSS REFERENCED INFORMATION

Associated significant garden []

11 ELMIE STREET

"KILCREGGAN"

History

In 1885 the Hepburn Hill area was subdivided into large blocks for the wealthy. Following improvement on the rail service in 1882 these blocks were highly sought after for construction of substantial garden villas.

This fine brick villa, known as "Kilcreggan", was built in 1889 for Walter E. Whitehead, partner with his father, Edward, in a firm of printers, stationers, lithographers, die-sinkers and embossers with a city office at 238 Collins Street.⁹ The site of Whitehead's Hawthorn villa was described as vacant land, NAV 18 pounds, in Elmie Street in 1887/88, owned by W.E. Whitehead.¹⁰ A seven roomed brick house, owned and occupied by Whitehead, in Elmie Street, NAV 70 pounds, was listed for the first time in the 1889/90 Hawthorn rate book.¹¹ The description was the same in 1893/94.¹² The building was listed at 9 Elmie Street in the 1895 Melbourne Directory and was identified as "Kilcreggan" in the 1910 Directory.

"Kilcreggan" remained as the home of the Whiteheads, a notable family of printers, until quite recently.¹³ Edward, the founder of the family printing business in Melbourne, arrived in colonial Victoria from London in 1859. At first, he was involved in publishing the *Argus*. He established the family printing firm in 1864 after purchasing Pearson and Company's printery in Collins Street. Later, Edward took his son, Walter (the first owner of "Kilcreggan") into partnership. Walter's grandson, Peter, runs E. Whitehead Pty. Ltd., printers, today with offices at Clifton Hill. When Peter's son, Richard, joins the firm, he will represent the fifth generation of printers in the Whitehead family. Walter Whitehead became a well-known Hawthorn resident, donating three stained-glass windows to the nearby Auburn Wesleyan Methodist (now Uniting) Church in Oxley Road.¹⁴

Description

A Victorian single storey villa form probably altered early in the twentieth century using Queen Anne details. Further alterations have occurred in more recent times including glazing of a verandah, painting brickwork and stone fencing.

9. Hawthorn RB 1889-90 No. 5426; Melbourne Directory 1889.

10. Ibid. 1887-88 No. 4111.

11. Ibid. 1893-94 No. 3617.

12. Ibid. 1893-94 No. 3617.

13. Conservation with Peter Whitehead 20 September, 1991. The property was sold by the Whitehead executors early 1991.

14. Ibid.

11 Elmie Street continued

Assessment

This building is representative of the highly desirable status of Hawthorn in the 1880s, for city business and professional people. The historical association with Whitehead is the primary significance for this somewhat altered structure.

Significance

Metropolitan

1. Primarily historically significant as the home for a century of the Whiteheads, a notable family of printers. The Whitehead printing firm, which was founded in 1864, is run today by Peter Whitehead, the grandson of Walter, the first owner/occupier of "Kilcreggan" in 1889. Peter, like his forebears, has a long association with the former Whitehead family home.