

PLACE IDENTIFICATION FORM

ADDRESS

7 Fordholm Street

TYPE

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

TITLE

"Kensley"

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 Nov. 91.

NEG FILE 57.12.

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 1916-1917

Architect

Builder

Elements -

House and garden



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

NOTABLE FEATURES/SIGNIFICANCE

See attached

INTEGRITY Good ☒
 Fair ☐
 Poor ☐

CONDITION Good ☒
 Fair ☐
 Poor ☐

CROSS REFERENCED INFORMATION

Associated significant garden ☐

7 FORDHOLM STREET

"KENSLEY"

History

This substantial house, built during the first world war period, was the home from 1916 at least until the early 1930s of Squire L. Kennon, a local tanner.³ It was described in 1916-17 as a brick house of eight rooms, NAV 100 pounds.⁴ In the 1920s the valuation of the house increased to 125 pounds (in 1927-28).⁵ By the early 1930s, "Kensley" was described as a brick house of eleven rooms, NAV 160 pounds.⁶ Some additions may have been made at this time.

Description

A two storey composition in rough cast, red brick, terracotta tiles, and timber. Gables are prominent in the roof, but do not dominate the design. Rather the textures of the natural materials, the heavy composition and the terracotta tiles of the roof itself are the key features. A central forward gabled projection with porch below and balcony above, provides the termination to the return ground floor verandah. This is simply detailed with tapered, paired, square columns set back under the raked eaves.

The features used here became synonymous with the Californian bungalow in the 1920s, developed from the Queen Anne and Garden Bungalow (or Craftsman, Bungalow) and from West Coast American designs. These forces led to Californian Bungalow design from the mid second decade of the twentieth century.

Assessment

In the twentieth century a period of conservative attitudes and sustained growth in the economy were the dominant characteristics of the theme period in Hawthorn called "Edwardian Prosperity". The garden suburb ideal continued to develop, particularly in Grace Park and further subdivision throughout the Municipality led to new middle class garden villas. A few areas continued to foster large homes, continuing the mansion house suburb tradition first established at St. James Park in the 1870s. In the Edwardian Period the Oakland Estate was one of the most desirable new subdivisions. The allotments were large. Lanes were often not provided at the rear and a new design type developed incorporating a sweeping drive through a substantial front garden. This period began to see the car and house considered together in design, although it would be twenty years more before the two physically were attached in house and garage.

This house built before 1916 is an early example of the Californian bungalow style, adopted here to a large house form. Although no architect has been determined, its early date points to an architectural association.

3. Hawthorn RB 1916-17 Power Ward No. 2119; Ibid. 1930-31 No. 3717.

4. Ibid. 1916-17 No. 2119.

5. Ibid. 1927-28 No. 3668.

6. Ibid. 1930-31 No. 3717.

7 Fordholm Street continued

Few houses were constructed during the first world war. In addition, few large buildings using this style were constructed. A rare example in Hawthorn.

Significance

Metropolitan

1. Architecturally significant as a representative example of mansion house suburb development at Hawthorn at the end of the prosperous Edwardian period. An early example using the Californian Bungalow style.