

PLACE IDENTIFICATION FORM

ADDRESS

47 Hawthorn Grove

TYPE

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

TITLE

"Albilbah"

EXISTING DESIGNATION

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

STREETSCAPE LEVEL

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

GRADING

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

RECOMMENDED FOR

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

SURVEY DATE Oct. 91.

NEG FILE 21.11.

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 1897-1898
Architect Green (see below)
Builder F. Green.
Elements (also built nos 26, 28, 40.
House, garden.

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

NOTABLE FEATURES/SIGNIFICANCE

See attached

INTEGRITY Good [X]
Fair []
Poor []

CONDITION Good [X]
Fair []
Poor []

CROSS REFERENCED INFORMATION

Associated significant garden []

The site information given above has been determined from external street level inspection.

* Green listed as architect in Australian Architectural Index

47 HAWTHORN GROVE

"ALBILBAH"

History

This is one of at least five Hawthorn Grove houses constructed in the 1890s by the important local builder, Frederick Green of Stanhope Grove, owner of the land in 1897-98.³⁹ It was built in 1897-98 for Mrs. J. McCaw of William Street and occupied in 1899 by Dr. T. O'Fabian Alsop.⁴⁰ By 1901-2, No. 47 was listed in the Hawthorn rate books as "Albilbah", a brick house of eleven rooms (NAV 76 pounds) owned by Mrs. McCaw and occupied by Matthew O'Brien, gentleman.⁴¹ The other Hawthorn Grove houses built by Green are No. 33 (1893) and Nos. 26, 28 and 40 (1896).⁴² Green also built a number of commercial buildings in Hawthorn including a row of two-storeyed shops of Victorian design at 845, 847 and 849 Burke Road.⁴³

Description

This building adopts the standard "L" shape villa form common from the mid 1880s in Hawthorn.

Two common single storey villa types occur in the peak of Hawthorn's Victorian garden suburb development during the 1880s and 1890s. One is forward facing with a double bay, central door and verandah reflecting the bay form e.g. 22 Elm Street. The second type is "L" shaped with a return verandah terminating at the projecting leg of the "L" - sometimes, as in 8 Elmie Street, a projection also terminated the far return end to the verandah. Bichrome brickwork or red brickwork render dressings is typical.

It departs from this standard form by not completing the return leg of the "L" with a gable end, rather a hipped form is used.

The front gable end is detailed in a mixture of styles. The ventilator has a gothic label mould and bosses; the bay projection incorporates a classically inspired cornice with brackets and modillions; the eaves incorporate heavy baroque bunting; the gutter is returned on the gable end and supported on paired Queen Anne brackets; and the verandah has turned columns and a timber valence executed in a freestyle form.

39. Loder and Bayly, *Hawthorn Grove Area*, Hawthorn Conservation Study, Jan. 1978, p.11; Gwen McWilliam, *Hawthorn Grove*, 1977, p.21. Green's signature was an undereave flower. He is listed as an architect in the *Australian Architectural Index*.

40. Ibid.

41. McWilliam, *Hawthorn Grove*, p.59.

42. Loder and Bayly.

43. Ibid.

47 Hawthorn Grove continued

Assessment

Overall the building is robust in its detailing and composition, conservative in its presentation to the street but up to date by virtue of the free manner in which the mixed stylistic references are combined.

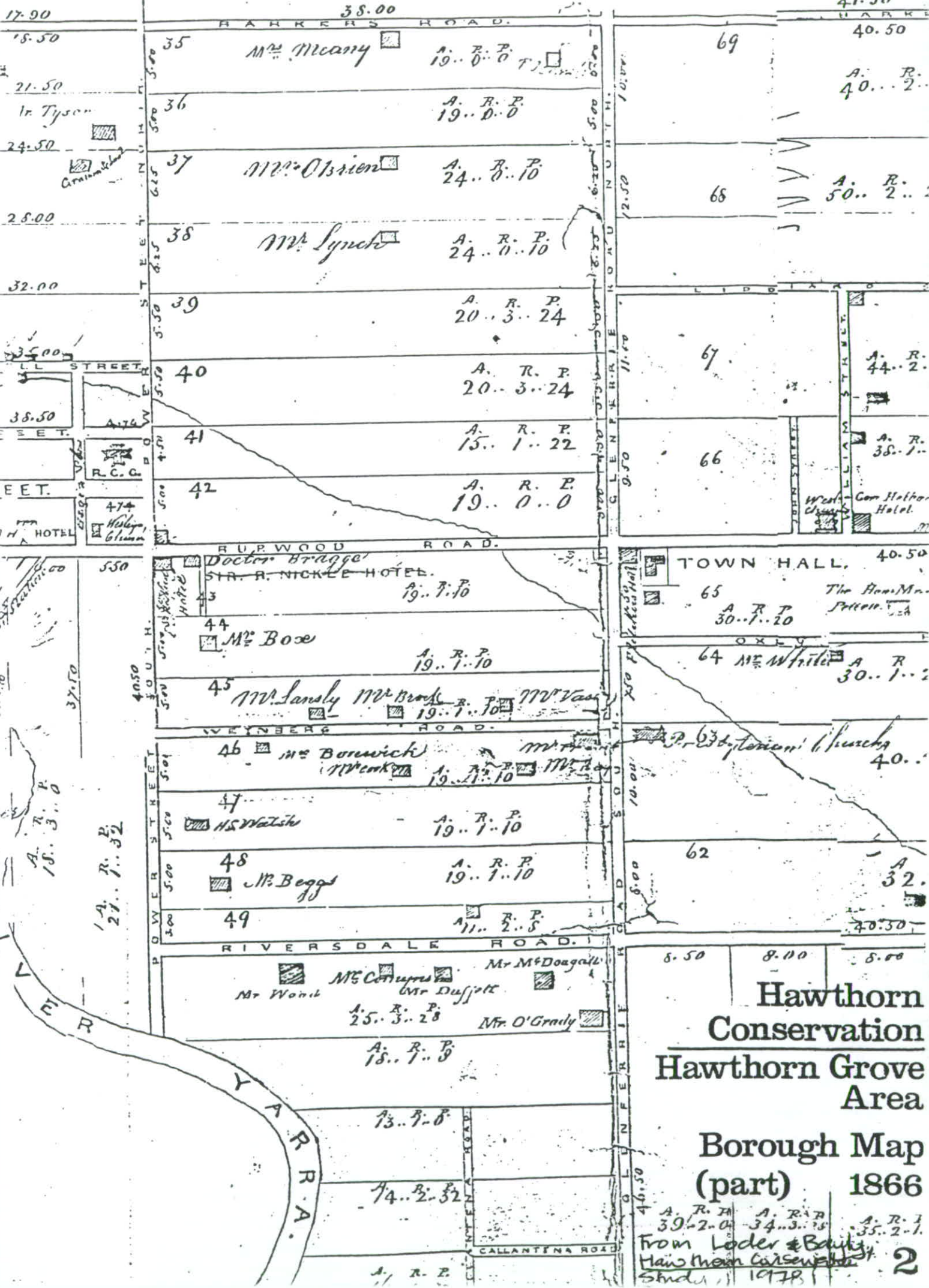
Architects were working on several innovative styles around the turn of the century, in one way or another all influenced by William Morris Red house at Blexley Heath in Britain and the reaction to the industrial revolution in Britain during the second half of the nineteenth century. By the turn of the century these are roughly grouped together as the red brick styles. Conservative Victorian period villas which had developed through the 1870s and 1880s adopted some of the characteristics of these avant-garde groups in a decorative way - sometimes referred to as Freestyle Edwardian. This building illustrates that phase as the economy emerges from a decade of depression into the conservative Edwardian period.

Green's design at No. 40 of 1896 utilizes a similar verandah detailing, polychrome and bay decoration in an equally eclectic but skilful manner. No. 40 and No. 47 are Green's best works.

Significance

Metropolitan

1. Architecturally significant for the illustration of the free use of style types on a standard nineteenth century villa form, appropriate for the community as it moves into the conservative but prosperous Edwardian period. Amongst the later group of houses constructed in Hawthorn Grove by prominent architect/builder Fred Green and with No. 40 his best work.



Hawthorn Conservation Hawthorn Grove Area
Borough Map (part) 1866

From Loder & Baily Hawthorn Conservation Study 1978