# PLACE IDENTIFICATION FORM

ADDRESS	TYPE
74 Kinkova Road	Single Residence   Multiple Unit Res.     Shop   Outbuildings   Industrial Building     Landscape feature   Public building     View   Other
EXISTING DESIGNATION	HBR [ ] GBR [ ] AHC [ ] NT [ ] VAS [ ]
STREETSCAPE LEVEL	1 [×] 2 [ ] 3 [ ] SIGNIFICANT [×] STREET TREES KERB & GUTTERS
GRADING	A[] B[X] C[] D[] E[]  KEYNOTE BUILDING[]
RECOMMENDED FOR	HBR/GBR [ ] AHC [×] URBAN CONSERVATION AREA [×] VAS [ ] PLANNING SCHEME PROTECTION [×] CULTURAL LANDSCAPE [ ] OTHER [ ]
SURVEY DATE Oct.91.  NEG FILE 17.36.  Title vol. Fol.  THEME [ ] Early Settlement [ ] Mansions [X] Victorian Garden Suburb [ ] Municipal dev. [ ] 1870s growth [X] Garden villas [ ] Working enclaves [ ] Commercial Centres [ ] Edwardian Prosperity [ ] Interwar Housing [ ] Flats and Offices  CONSTRUCTION DETAILS Date 1894 **  Architect William Tappin ?? Builder Elements	
[ ] Contributing garden [ ] Landmark tree	[ ] Original or early hard landscape layout [ X] Original or early fence (early)
NOTABLE FEATURES/SIGNIFICANCE	
See attached	
INTEGRITY Good [X] Fair [ ] Poor [ ]	CONDITION Good [×] Fair [ ] Poor [ ]
CROSS REFERENCED INFORMATION Associated significant garden	[ ]

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

\* Recommend vate book Search to confirm date

### 74 KINKORA ROAD

# History

This is one of a row of six brick houses in Kinkora Road built between 1891 and 1894 by the local builder, John Kaiser. 55 Its first owner in 1894 was the architect William B. Tappin. 56 A Roman Catholic, Tappin worked for some years in a partnership, Tappin and Gilbert, which had an office in Ballarat as well as in Melbourne. In early April 1890, Tappin joined the partnership of Reed, Smart and Tappin. Circa 1886 Joseph Reed and his new wife came to live at "Amoe" in Coppin Grove, Hawthorn. Reed died on 29 April 1890 but the firm retained his name for the next 17 years. In the 15 years that Tappin worked for the firm until his death in 1905, a number of important works were completed including some major church buildings. Works in 1891 included the Immaculate Conception Church, Hawthorn; St. John the Baptist, Clifton Hill; St. Mark's Fitzroy; and a new manse for the Toorak Presbyterian Church. The firm was also responsible for the design of the Convent of Notre Dame de Sion at Sale and the Church of England House of Mercy, Cheltenham (1892), the Presbyterian Thomson Memorial Church at Terang (1893), the Metropolitan Gas Company building next to St. Paul's Cathedral (1893), the Bendigo Cathedral of the Sacred Heart (1896-1901) and the three-storey Convent of the Good Shepherd at Abbotsford (1900).

Tappin was "something of an artist" and is credited with stencils behind the altar in St. Patrick's Cathedral and the design of the shrine in St. Francis Church.<sup>57</sup>

# Description

Six houses, of matching form but different detailing. They adopt the typical late 1880s garden villa form of projecting bayed wing and adjoining verandah. The roof is hipped, with a facetted hip over the bay projection. The six are cleverly individualized by alteration of wall treatment, window head shape, verandah decoration and decorative embellishment. This practice is typical of speculative building and continues today. Nos. 70, 74 and 76 are the most prominent.

No. 74 is attributed to architect William Tappin. This incorporates quite adventurous polychrome with an unexpected cream and red central stripe, red voussoirs and cream quoins. Elaborate render mouldings are applied between the brackets on the eaves. No. 76 is a rendered building. It incorporates most unusual leaf mouldings applied to the face of the wall. No. 70 utilizes a more straight forward acanthus leaf string course but adds beautifully executed colonnettes to the window architraves.

The fine quality of the render mouldings on each example suggests that perhaps Tappin was involved in all the examples.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup>. Information supplied by Gwen McWilliam.

Rate book information supplied by Gwen McWilliam. (Recommend that entry no. should be searched to confirm original owner).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup>. "Reed Smart and McCutcheon. Historical Survey. 1852-1972" with index of Buildings, 8 July, 1975.

### 74 Kinkora Road continued

Each building has the standard central path and flanking garden square. Various remnants of early fencing and/or gates are found on several of the buildings.

#### Assessment

Despite the depression of the 1890s, building continued in the prestigious Hawthorn garden suburbs spurred on by speculative ventures such as this group by builder Kaiser. Not surprisingly the buildings are less elaborate and smaller than the single commission mansions and large villas, but as occurs elsewhere in Hawthorn, they feed on their image to produce an aspiring respectable "middle class" "mansion" of small size.

This type of development is typical of hard economic times. It can be seen again in the 1930s at 27-33 Havelock Road and in A.V. Jennings estates of the 1930s such as the Beauview Estate in Ivanhoe.

Kaiser was a major Hawthorn builder developing much of the Victorian period garden suburb. With Bishop and Green, and the influence which flows from them, these quality builders are responsible for much of Hawthorns urban character today.

Tappin is a major architect in the last decade of the nineteenth century and early decade of the twentieth century. These houses illustrate the architects approach to small homes.

Significance Metropolitan

- 1. Architecturally significant for: the intact grouping of six matching villas, rare in Hawthorn; the illustration of inventive, repetitive building processes during economic downturns; the influential work of builder John Kaiser and the small house designs of important Melbourne architect William Tappin.
- 2. An important Hawthorn streetscape of State significance.





