

Balwyn Road Residential Precinct  
Place Citation

13 Balwyn Road, Canterbury

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Name	<i>Shepreth</i>		
Place	Residential		
Type			
Date	1891-4	Survey Date	Dec 2005
Architect	Not known	Previous Grading	B
Builder	John B Maling	Grading	B

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Intactness  Good  Fair  Poor

Heritage  HV  AHC  NT  BPS Heritage Overlay

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**History**

This site was part of Ernst Carter's Heathfield Estate, which extended from Canterbury Road to Erica Street on the west side of Balwyn Road. It was subdivided in 1884. The site is on allotment 15 and part of allotment 14, which had been part of John Butler Maling's holdings purchased on 22 June 1887.<sup>1</sup>

John Maling built the house for himself in 1891. The house was listed in the 1891-2 rate books and the valuation increased during the mid-1890s. In 1898, the house was described as having 12 rooms.<sup>2</sup> John Maling served as a local councillor from 1886-1916 including being elected President during 1897-8, 1904-5 and Mayor in 1905-6.<sup>3</sup>

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1 R Da Costa-Adams, information derived from Certificate of Title, vol. 1926/fol. 068

2 G Butler, 'Camberwell Conservation Study', 1991, vol 4, p17

3 G Butler, 'Camberwell Conservation Study', 1991, vol 4, p17

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Several medical practitioners subsequently resided at the site including George Gilray (c1894-98), John R Hutton and George W Armstrong, the latter being a surgeon.<sup>4</sup>

By 1905, the house was identified as *Shepreth* and there was a timber outbuilding to the rear boundary.<sup>5</sup> The name of the house was derived from the English village in which Maling was born.<sup>6</sup>

An undated 20<sup>th</sup> century photograph indicates that there used to be a low brick fence across the front boundary.<sup>7</sup> In 1991, outbuildings were extant at the rear and the exotic garden was said to be sympathetic to the house's period.<sup>8</sup>

In a 1997 advertisement, the house was described as having marble fireplaces and stained glass.<sup>9</sup>

### Description & Integrity

The bi-chrome brick, two storey Italianate house has contrasting white painted rendered elements - quoining, cornice, and string course. There are decorative elements to the cornice and string course such as rosettes and a serpentine floral pattern. There is cast iron detailing to the offset verandah and balcony as well as to the balconettes to the first floor windows of the projecting bay.

### Statement of Significance

One of a few substantial, late Victorian era brick houses which represent the first major period of development in the precinct. The two storey house is intact externally and is distinguished by the combination of original decorative elements to the façade.

There are also associations with the original owner, John Maling, who was an eminent local councillor and Mayor.

### Grading and Recommendations

The site is part of the identified Balwyn Road Residential Precinct, which is recommended for inclusion within the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay.

### Identified By

G Butler, 'Camberwell Conservation Study', 1991, vol 4, pp17-18

### References

G Butler, 'Camberwell Conservation Study', 1991  
*The Age* 5 July 1997, Miles Lewis Mansion Database  
Camberwell Library - LHCPH 1247  
R Da Costa-Adams, 'Notes of Balwyn Road, Canterbury Heritage Precinct', January 2006  
MMBW detail plan no. 1996 (1905),  
M Lewis, 'Melbourne Mansions Database'

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- 4 G Butler, 'Camberwell Conservation Study', 1991, vol 4, p17
  - 5 MMBW detail plan no. 1996 (1905)
  - 6 M Lewis, 'Melbourne Mansions Database': *Age* 5, July 1997
  - 7 Camberwell Library - LHCPH 1247
  - 8 G Butler, 'Camberwell Conservation Study', 1991, vol 4, p17
  - 9 M Lewis, 'Melbourne Mansions Database': *Sunday Age*, 13 July 1997