

10 FERNHURST GROVE, 'FERNDALE'

Original Use: Residence
Date of Construction: 1899-1900¹
Architect: Unknown

DESIGNATION B
CITATION NO.40



HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

Jabez Gadsden, a printer, was the original owner and occupier of this two-storey residence². Although initially attracting an N.A.V. of £50 in 1899³, in the following year the N.A.V. was recorded as £100⁴, indicating that the twelve-roomed building had been completed.

The house is distinctive for its tall two storeyed form that stands in contrast to the two storeyed houses of designers such as Ussher, that were typically shrouded in a steep roof, and in this is more reminiscent of the red brick architecture of the preceding decade. The walls are in bichromatic brickwork, that was also somewhat old fashioned by that date, although the form and decoration of the verandah is the most distinctive. It has a splayed entrance at one side from which extends a timber verandah with turned timber columns and a unusual grid-like frieze.

SIGNIFICANCE

10 Fernhurst Grove is of significance as a house built at the beginning of the Edwardian period (architecturally) that displays massing found in the late Victorian period combined with decoration more common in the Edwardian period.

HERITAGE LISTINGS

HBR: Not Recommended for inclusion on the register.

GBR: N/A

RNE: Recommended for inclusion on the register.

National Trust: Not currently listed.

¹ City of Kew, Rate Books, 1899-1900

² *ibid.*, 1899

³ *ibid.*

⁴ *ibid.*, 1900

This building was not recommended for nomination to the Historic Buildings Council by the Kew Conservation Study. It is one of a relatively small number of double storeyed houses in Melbourne displaying a combination of Victorian and Edwardian characteristics. It warrants at least a B grading and should be inspected to establish its internal integrity, which could lift it to an A grading.