

## Camberwell Conservation Study 1991 BUILDING CITATION

### House, 92 Mont Albert Road



**Study Grading:** A  
**Precinct:** 24.00 Streetscape:  
**Construction Date:** 1926  
**First Owner:** Gillespie, Walter D  
**Architect:** Barlow & Hawkins

#### History

The flour miller, Walter Gillespie, via his architects Barlow & Hawkins, applied to connect his house to the MMBW sewer in 1917<sup>1</sup>. Records state that this was completed as late as 1926 whilst the Melbourne Directory for 1927 is Gillespie's first listing at this address<sup>2</sup>. Later owners included H. G. Becham and A. C. Goode<sup>3</sup>.

Gillespie was presumably of James Gillespie and Co Ltd. who operated mills at Leicester Street, Carlton and earlier, for a long period in Elizabeth Street, Kensington.

and Co Ltd.

#### Description

An early example of the 'Old English' or neo-Tudor style which has the benefit of a superb and extensive corner site.

Angled to Mont Albert Road and on an axis perpendicular with the notable gateway, its placement accentuates the informal nature of the style. Pyramid roof forms over dormers, other windows and the porch are skillfully placed counterpoint to the broad main roof forms.

Half-timbering, grouped chimney shafts, rough brickwork and broad intersecting and nested gables are the house's main elements. 'Natural' materials such as the clay shingles, timbering and stucco (all unpainted?) add to the Medieval character of the house. The mature exotic planting provides a period setting and the heavy timber carriage gates a fitting entry.

No longer of the Queen Anne, this house type instead approaches pure Tudor revival which was a continuing thread since 1900 and seen particularly well represented in Banksia Street, Heidelberg and Studley Street Ivanhoe.

#### Comparative Examples

The following Camberwell sites may be compared with this site.

354, BURKE ROAD, 1926  
92, MONT ALBERT ROAD, 1926  
14, PINE AVENUE, 1926c  
452, BURKE ROAD, 1927-28  
2, BARNBURY ROAD, 1927  
360, BURKE ROAD, 1927  
47, CAMPBELL ROAD, 1927  
38, HIGHFIELD ROAD, 1927  
1, MUSWELL HILL, 1927  
294, WARRICAL ROAD, 1927  
3, ROCHESTER ROAD, 1928-30  
7, ROCHESTER ROAD, 1928-30  
2, HIGHTON GROVE, 1928-9  
27, YARRBAT AVENUE, 1928-c  
21, CHRISTOWEL STREET, 1928  
26, CHRISTOWEL STREET, 1928  
17, LANSELL CRESCENT, 1928  
12, STODDART STREET, 1928  
8, CHRISTOWEL STREET, 1928c  
226, DONCASTER ROAD, 1929  
19, FAIRMONT AVENUE, 1929  
300, WARRICAL ROAD, 1929  
15, FREEMAN STREET, 1929c

#### External Integrity

The house is generally original externally; the fence has been replaced.

#### Streetscape

The house is typical of this street's diversely styled and large houses, set in grounds. The corner siting and diagonal axis of the plan is particularly successful in its address to the street.

1 MMBW DPA 107826  
2 *ibid.*  
3 BA 1950, 4973; BA 1962, 32098

Camberwell Conservation Study 1991  
**BUILDING CITATION (Continued)**

**Significance**

Architecturally, a superbly sited house which may be the earliest example of the popular neo-Tudor house style of the 1930s-50s; of regional importance and state interest.

Historically, associated with the old milling firm of Gillespie and representative of Camberwell's rising middle classes.

**Restoration**

Restore fence.

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