

## Identification and location

**Name of place:** Redcourt

**Other Name** Considine house

**Address** 060 Droon Street  
Footscray

**Place Identifier** 38

**Heritage Significance** Regional

**Creation date(s)** 1916 **Map (Melway)** 42 C3

**Boundary description** The title land and buildings with emphasis on fabric from or near the construction date and Considine occupation.

**Local Government Area** City of Maribyrnong

**Ownership Type** Private?

## Description

**Site Type:** House, urban

### Physical Description

Asymmetrically planned, of red brick and tiled in Marseilles pattern terra- cotta, this house shows some of the previous era's Queen Anne characteristics (form) but also the Federation Bungalow manner and its evolution as the Indian Bungalow. The same high hipped roof serves as a basis for gabled room bays at either end of the verandah, as in the Queen Anne designs, but here the design approach is much simpler with the timber verandah brackets and posts showing an Far Eastern inspiration.

Leadlight top casements to window groups are among the few ornamental gestures. A dressed stone verandah coping encloses plain terra- cotta floor tiles and even the projecting gables, with their stained shingling, show restraint. Distinctive chimney caps also suggest the Far Eastern influence and correspond with examples designed by the architect, Purnell. The chain-wire perimeter fence and iron gate probably replaced round-head timber picket, as seen in the surviving fence posts and frame in 1989. Beyond the house, a large contemporary stable complex (obscured from view) presumably relates to the Considine family's business; there is also a 1920s garage on the Geelong Road boundary which visually relates to the house.

### Condition

Picket fence replaced.

### Integrity

## Context

On an exposed corner site, it adjoins an Edwardian house and opposes a Victorian villa. Other Victorian era houses lie to the south.

## Threats:

Increasing development pressure, unrelated external changes.

## History

### Historical background

Areas of land within the municipality were used by meat preserving or slaughtering companies as holding or grazing areas for stock, for example Wembley Park, which was once a holding area for William Angliss's stock. The link between the Study Area and the pastoral industry, however, was probably most strongly expressed in the establishment of such industries as meat processing and related trades and by the siting of wool stores strategically close to railways from the Western District { Barnard, 2000 }.

### Specific History

Representing a trade with strong Footscray associations, Joseph Considine (wholesale butcher) first owned and occupied this large Bungalow-style house in 1916 {RB1916-17,p.67; D1920 }. His firm became J. Considine & Sons, Pty. Ltd. {D1955 }.

Members of the Considine family occupied the house until relatively recently, Joseph having died there in 1934. {FCR } His widow, Margaret, and children, William, Michael, James, Eileen and Joseph, survived him. {`The Age' 8/6/34 }

## Thematic context

**Australian Principal Theme** Building settlements, towns and cities

**PAHT Subtheme** Making suburbs

**Local Theme(s)** Employers' Housing

## Cultural Significance

Redcourt is significant to the Western Region because:

- architecturally, it is a substantial Edwardian-era suburban house and stable which is externally intact as the former home of a successful local businessman (Criterion D2);
- it is in an early transitional evolution of the Bungalow style, within the City, from the Colonial revival Federation Bungalow to the Indian Bungalow, with its Far Eastern influences (Criterion F1);
- historically, the house is linked with one of Footscray's more prominent family businesses (Criterion H1);
- it is linked with the development of the regionally important meat trade because of the Considine association (Criterion A4).

### Comparative Examples:

The design is distinctive within the region, probably because it was custom designed. Federation Bungalows (without the Far Eastern influence) are far more numerous as are the typical Californian Bungalows.

### Recommendations

Heritage Victoria Register

Register of the National Estate:

National Trust Register:

Other Heritage Listings

Planning Scheme Protection

External Paint Controls Apply?:

Internal Alteration Controls Apply?:

Tree Controls Apply?:

Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Act:

Are there Outbuildings or Fences not Exempt?:

Prohibited Uses may be Permitted

### Recommendations:

Conserve and enhance the identified significant fabric, with emphasis on fabric from the early 1900s and the Considine occupation, with enhancement including reinstatement of missing original elements, colours and finishes.

Conserve the public view of the significant fabric.

Promote the continuing original use of the place and its amenity.

Continue historical research into the place and provide public access to the findings.

Assess the interior for significant elements.

### Australian Heritage Commission Criteria

*A4 Importance for their association with events, developments or cultural phases which have had a significant role in the human occupation and evolution of the nation, state, region or community.*

linked with the development of the regionally important meat trade because of the Considine association

*D2 Importance in demonstrating the principle characteristics of the range of human activities in the Australian environment (including way of life, custom, process, land-use, function, design or technique).*

substantial Edwardian-era suburban house and stable which is externally intact as the home of a successful local businessman

*F1 Importance for their technical, creative, design or artistic excellence, innovation or achievement.*

an early transitional evolution of the Bungalow style, within the City, from the Colonial revival Federation Bungalow to the

Historic Places - Selected non-industrial significant places in former City of Footscray - not in the Planning Scheme

Indian Bungalow, with its Far Eastern influences

*HI Importance for their close associations with individuals whose activities have been significant within the history of the nation, state or region.*

the house is linked with one of Footscray's more prominent family businesses

☒ historical significance ☒ architectural significance ☐ social significance ☐ scientific significance

## Documentation

### References

Butler, Graeme 1989, City of Footscray Urban Conservation Study cites:

- 'The Age';
- Footscray Cemetery Register (FCR);
- Sands and MacDougall Victorian Directories (D);
- Municipal rate books (RB);

Barnard, J 2000. Maribyrnong Heritage Review Volume 2 Environmental History City of Maribyrnong.

## Data recording

Assessed By: Graeme Butler

Assessed Date: 2000