

5 and 7 Myamyn Street - R*5 Myamyn St*

1889-84: Bowes Kelly owner. Land only.

1895: Bowes Kelly owner. Land only 133'

1896-97: Bowes Kelly owner. Clarke, William. sharebroker. occupier. Bk. hse. 8 rms. 66' N.A.V. £65

(Malvern Rate Books)

7 Myamyn St

1889-94: Bowes Kelly owner. Land only.

1895: " " " " " 133'

1896-97: Bowes Kelly owner. Clarke, Alfred, sharebroker Bk. hse. 8 rms. 66' N.A.V. £65

(Malvern Rate Books)

5 and 7 Myamyn were built as a matching pair of houses with Mediæval/Free Style influence, by Bowes Kelly, one of Australia's most famous mining magnates. Bowes Kelly was an original director of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited and the principal developer of the Mt Lyall mine in Tasmania. He lived nearby in Waiora in Glenferrie Road from 1888 before moving to Moorakyne, a mansion next to Stonnington. He also was involved in property development in Melbourne. It has not been established who the architect was for these three buildings. They are possibly the work of Arthur Fisher who lived next to 1 Sorrett Avenue, and who designed the pioneering mediaeval inspired half timbered Westford, at 2 Ash Grove East Malvern. These houses are stylistically very similar to 1 Sorrett Avenue and 12, 14 and 16 Mercer Road, and 3 Myamyn Street, also with mediaeval influences. Bowes Kelly was also responsible for these and they are close to his residence Waiora. They are also similar to Fisher's developments at 127, 129 and 133 Manning Road East Malvern.

These houses were designed in an eclectic manner with a mediæval character to the gable facing the street which has a secondary projecting hip roof over a window bay. The mediæval character was probably reinforced by the entry gablet on the verandah with wooden fretwork. They may have borrowed this detail from Sir George Verdon's hill station, Alton at Mt Macedon which was influenced by Verdon's association with leading English architects. The steep pitched roofs, tall chimneys and the lack of stucco ornamentation on these red face brickwork buildings represents a rejection of the Italianate and the more flamboyant Queen Anne styles. The plan form, however, with two projecting bays containing a return verandah is not uncommon for the period. This matching pair have steep pitched slate roofs. These are hipped above the return verandah and have two projecting gabled bays. The front bay has a further projecting bay window with a separate slate hipped roof. Elaborate detailing to the double hung window with separate leaded glass highlights emphasises this element. Paired angled brackets support the eaves of this projecting bay window as well as the eaves of the main house. The brick work is a combination of dark Hawthorns with bands of red brick. This is repeated also on the chimney. The verandah has dentilation beneath the gutter and around the pediment of the gablet. The turned timber verandah posts are more characteristic of the Queen Anne style.

Other than the missing gable truss, missing verandah brackets and high brick fence, 5

Myamyn Street is apparently intact. 7 Myamyn has a low timber picket fence and is generally intact. A single storey wing at the rear (which faces the side street) appears to date from the 1930s.

5 and 7 Myamyn Street are of regional significance as two of a group of three Mediæval/Free Style houses constructed by Bowes Kelly, one of Australia's most famous mining magnates. Kelly lived at Waiora, in the immediate vicinity of this house. The houses are distinguished by their intact face brickwork and timber detailing.