

Crumpford, 2 Stonnington Place - S

Architects: Klingender & Alsop

1918: Drainage plans prepared for R H Alsop, owner. MMBW Drainage Plan No 108445

1920: Sketch elevations and floor plans - 'Brick residence at Malvern cost £1,000,

Klingender & Alsop Architects' (*Real Property Annual*, 1920 p.46)

1924-47: Wood A.D. (Sands & McDougall Directories)

Renowned architect Rodney Alsop designed and built a unique precinct in this section of Stonnington Place (see also area description). The cottages included:

The Croft, 4 Stonnington Place (1913) Alsop's own house, now demolished

8 Stonnington Place (1914), now demolished

Tongaboo, 6 Stonnington Place (1916)

Crumpford, 2 Stonnington Place (1918)

This picturesque English style cottage at 2 Stonnington Place is notable for its simple single ridged slate gable roof containing attic rooms with flat deck dormers. The residence originally had a short porch in the north elevation, although it is now enclosed. The walls are of clinker brick, an unusually early use of this material, but the roof form and chimneys are very similar to 6 Stonnington Place (in its original form). The chimneys are very slender with a simple capping. The windows are of a typical Alsop design having glazing bars confined to the upper sash. On the north frontage, the property retains a remnant of the original timber fence with large hardwood lattice panels and is set in a mature garden.

Crumpford represents a clear statement of English picturesque cottage design, and it is clear that Alsop, like many of his contemporaries, was moving rather freely between the English and American idioms in this period. John Clare in his study of Post-Federation houses in Melbourne (1) has indicated how Alsop's Stonnington Place houses expressed a concern for a simple, unornamental and functional architecture. This was in advance of contemporary practice. The houses and gardens were designed to be of a complementary character. Alsop was also of note for his landscaped designs, the best known major commission was Footscray Park. This group pre-empted Edna Walling's famous cottages and landscapes at Bickleigh Vale of the 1920s and 1930s.

Crumpford is of state significance as a particularly picturesque cottage form, of note for its simple massings and general intactness and the significance of the landscape setting.

1 John Clare, 'The post Federation house in Melbourne - Bungalow and Vernacular Revival styles 1900-1930', unpublished thesis, Faculty of Architecture and Planning, University of Melbourne, 1984.