

2.13 1100 WHITEHORSE ROAD, BOX HILL

Building:	Edgbaston		
Address:	1100 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill	Melway Map Ref:	47 F9
Building Type:	Residence	Construction Date:	1907
Architect:	Edward Bishop(?)	Builder:	Edward Bishop(?)

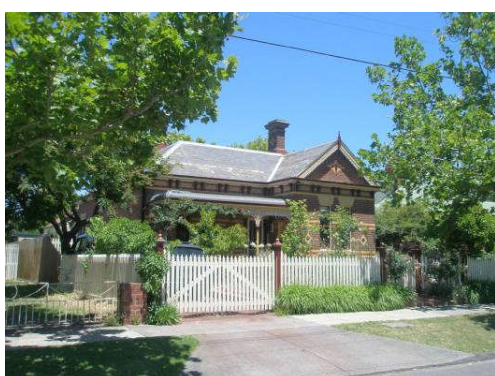


Image: Edgbaston, north elevation.
Source: HLCD Pty Ltd, 2009.



Image: Aerial view.
Source: City of Whitehorse. 2009.

History:

The residence at 1100 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill was first listed in the 1906 rate books. Peter Hogg Fergusson owned vacant land in the Barcelona Estate north of the railway. The land comprised allotments 15, 16, 17 and part 18 (the dwelling is located on allotment 15).¹ He sold the land to William Reuben Fielding, a jeweller by trade, in 1906. In Fielding's first year of ownership there is reference to a brick house in brackets, however the land value remained at £8. The following year in 1907, the rates went up to £25 confirming the presence of the new residence.² The place is understood to have been designed and built by Edward Bishop who was a local builder and Shire President of Nunawading for some time in the early 1900s. Bishop was an active builder in the inner eastern suburbs. The green tiles set into the front facade are understood to be Bishop's signature tiles.³

Fielding lived at the Whitehorse Road house until 1911 before moving to The Esplanade in Hampton. The previous year, Fielding had sold allotment 17 and part 18 to Mr Greenwood.⁴ He remained the owner of the property and house in Whitehorse Road (allotments 15 and 16) and it was leased to Stephen Prior, a Dealer.⁵

¹ City of Box Hill Rate Books, Line No., 1559 (1904); 1603 (1905)

² City of Box Hill Rate Books, Line No., 1721 (1906); 1758 (1907)

³ Box Hill Historical Society, Short History of 1100 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill, year unknown

⁴ City of Box Hill Rate Books, Line No., 2002 (1910)

⁵ City of Box Hill Rate Books, Line No., 2577 (1913)

Between 1920 and 1926, Stephen Prior and his wife Georgina Ethel purchased the house and allotment 16 they had been leasing from Fielding. The house was number 71 Whitehorse Road (now known as 1100 Whitehorse Road).⁶ The Prior's named the property Edgbaston. They had five children, one of whom was killed in action in World War One.⁷

In November 1939, Georgina Ethel (widow), and her daughters, Georgina Eleanor Prior of the same address 1100 Whitehorse Road, and Violet Yeilding Prior of Wickham Terrace Brisbane, became the joint proprietors. Following the death of Georgina Ethel Prior in 1953, the daughters became the owners of the property.⁸

Georgina Eleanor Prior, a teacher, opened up a private girls' school called Chalgrove at the property. A timber outbuilding at the rear of the residence was used for the schoolroom. The school operated from c.1950 to 1964 under Miss Prior's tuition.⁹ Former Victorian Parliamentarian Prudence Ann Sibree née Turnor was educated at the school.¹⁰ The former schoolroom is still extant but is used as an outbuilding.

The property was sold in 1978 to David Tucker, following the death of Miss Prior.

Description:

1100 Whitehorse Road is a single storey, double fronted Edwardian period residence with some elements of late Victorian decorative ornamental detailing. The form of the residence with a hipped roof, projecting gable bay and a bull nose verandah with corrugated iron roof to the Whitehorse Road elevation is characteristic of the Edwardian period.

The polychromatic brickwork, including contrasting cream and red bricks in horizontal bands and diamond shaped patterns in the apex of the gable, on chimneys and as a wall motif, is a decorative treatment popular from the Victorian period onwards. There are also four single green tiles in the front facade which highlight the diamond shaped polychromatic brickwork. The residence has a patterned slate roof, paired decorative eaves brackets and double hung windows in pairs with rendered sills and arches over. The degree of decorative iron work is another element of late Victorian design. The gable features an ornamental bracketed iron frieze with finial and the verandah has a decorative iron frieze between the upright posts with capitals.

The outbuilding, constructed c.1907, at the rear of the residence is clad in weatherboards with a corrugated iron gable roof. It is in poor condition with a later rear addition and carport added.

Although the front fence is a later change, timber pickets are appropriate to the style of the property.

Comparative Examples:

The examples discussed may demonstrate similar aspects of heritage significance to the City of Whitehorse. Those already in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay in the Whitehorse Planning Scheme have a HO number. Others are drawn from *Final Heritage Assessments Report*, HLCD Pty Ltd, 2010 and *Whitehorse Heritage Review 2001, Places of Potential Cultural Heritage Significance*, Ward, 2001 which both include properties being reviewed by Council for potential

⁶ City of Box Hill Rate Books, Line No., 3089 (1926)

⁷ Death notices in *The Argus*, 27th October 1917, p.13.

⁸ Land Victoria, Title Certificate, Vol.06345 Fol.906

⁹ City of Whitehorse, *Centenary of Women's Suffrage*, February 2008

¹⁰ National Foundation for Australian Women, Women's history, *Australian Women's Archives Project* <http://www.womenaustralia.info/biogs/AWE1207b.htm> accessed February 2009

future inclusion in the Heritage Overlay. In some cases where the use of the property is significant, comparisons may be made with places which are not recommended for heritage protection but provide a historical context for analysis.

9 Warrigal Road, Surrey Hills, 1890 (HO159)
15 St John's Avenue, Surrey Hills, 1904 (HO155)
26 Kangerong Road, Box Hill, (Ward Study)

1100 Whitehorse Road is a good example of an Edwardian era residence built in 1907 that demonstrates some elements of late Victorian decoration. It highlights the subtle transitional changes that occurred between architectural periods at this time. Comparisons have not been made with buildings that are typically Victorian in form being double fronted with a hipped roof and no projecting bay or the more complex plan forms of return verandahs and multiple projecting bays, although these buildings may share some similar decorative detailing.

1100 Whitehorse Road compares with 9 Warrigal Road Surrey Hills, and 26 Kangerong Road Box Hill in plan, form and ornamentation. The three villas have an asymmetrical double frontage with a projecting bay, central entry and hipped slate roof. They also share some similarities like polychromatic brickwork, decorated brick chimneys, and ornamentation. Both 9 Warrigal Road and 26 Kangerong Road have a hipped roof to the projecting bay which reflects their earlier construction date. 26 Kangerong Road also has contrasting brick quoins which is a Victorian feature.

1100 Whitehorse Road is also comparable to 15 St John's Avenue in that the latter property was also used for education purposes and was a girls' school from 1938.¹¹ It was also constructed in the Federation period but is not of the same architectural style.

Therefore the property at 1100 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill is one of the few examples of an Edwardian period dwelling in Box Hill that demonstrates some elements of late Victorian decoration.

Significance:

What is significant?

The property at 1100 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill containing a 1907 brick villa (not including the altered timber outbuilding).

How is it significant?

The property at 1100 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill is of historical and aesthetic significance to the City of Whitehorse.

Why is it significant?

The property at 1100 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill is of historical significance for its construction in 1907 as part of the Barcelona Estate. The location of this brick villa close to the civic centre of Box Hill indicates the size of the Box Hill township at the turn of the century.

The property is of local historical importance as the site of the Chalgrove Private Girls' School which operated from an outbuilding constructed at a similar time to the villa. The school operated from c.1950 to 1964 under property owner, Georgina Eleanor Prior's tuition. This change in use for 14 years is not reflected in the extant fabric. (Criterion A)

¹¹ Date taken from the 15 St John's Avenue, Surrey Hills Statement of Significance, as identified in Andrew Ward, *City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2001: Places of Potential Significance*, City of Whitehorse, September 2001.

The property at 1100 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill is of aesthetic significance as an Edwardian period residence with some transitional Victorian style elements. The villa demonstrates typical Edwardian built form with Victorian decorative elements, including polychromatic brickwork, patterned slate, decorative eaves brackets and iron lacework to the gable end and the front verandah. (Criterion E)

The property at 1100 Whitehorse Road has some social significance for former pupils who attended the Chalgrove Private Girls' School between 1950 and 1964. (Criterion G)

Historical Images:

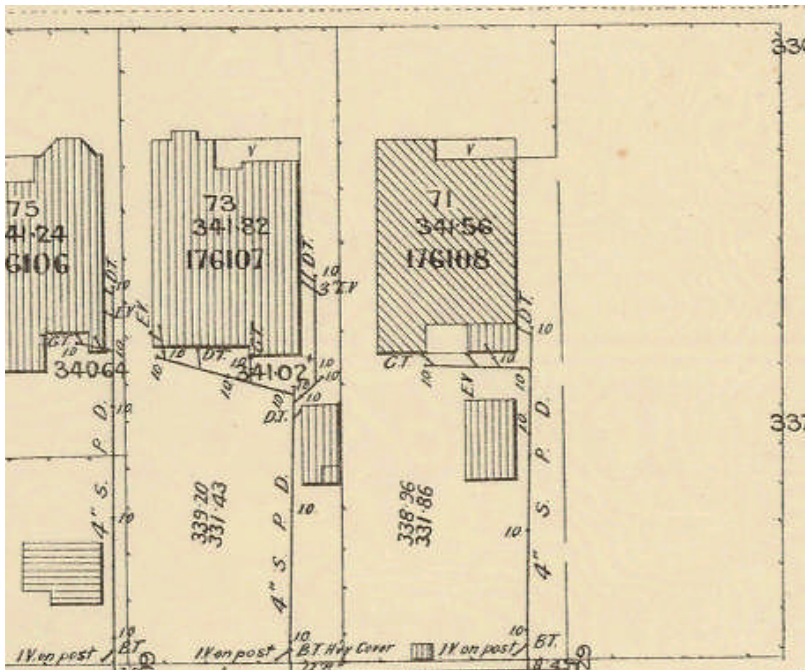


Image: MMBW Detail plan (3090) with residence at 1100 Whitehorse Road shown as number 71, 1930.

Source: State Library Victoria, Image No. bw2224



Image: 1100 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill
Source: Andrew Ward, *City of Whitehorse Heritage Review 2001: Places of Potential Significance*, City of Whitehorse, September 2001.