Victorian Heritage Database Report

Wimba



City of Kew Urban Conservation Study 1988



City of Kew Urban Conservation Study 1988

Location

235 Cotham Road KEW, Boroondara City

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO37

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

'Wimba' is of significance as one of the key nineteenth century houses of Kew and for remaining in a substantially intact state.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - City of Kew Urban Conservation Study, Pru Sanderson Design Pty Ltd, 1988;
Hermes Number	22337
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Although probably built some time earlier, the first mention in the Rate Books of the property later known as 'Wimba Lodge' appears in the entry for 1870 when the property, owned by John Sharpe Denbigh, a civil servant, was given an N.A.V. of £72 [2]. Denbigh did however occupy a house in Cotham Road in 1863, and it is possible that was the same premises [3]. The house was occupied by Sharp until at least May 1876 when the 'family residence...' was auctioned' [4] to Carlington George Edmund Marston [5], a chemist of Smith Street, Collingwood. At the time of the auction the house was described thus: The residence and grounds of the late J.S. Dendigh, situate in the most elevated part of Cotharn Road Kew. The grounds comprise an area of 4a Or29p or thereabouts, and have a frontage to Cotham-road of 4 chains. The house has two large rooms in front, with 6ft hall built of brick, bay and side windows (plate glass), four rooms of wood behind with slate roofs, bathroom and closets, detached kitchen and servant's room, large shed with washing boiler, pantry and cellar under, brick and cement tank, and the Yan Yean laid onto house and grounds, cowshed, pigstye, &c, the whole securely fenced. First class orchard and flower garden. The paddocks laid with English grasses and drained....'

'Wimba' is a single storeyed rendered house. The front entrance is flanked by two polygonal bay windows, and a verandah with a concave corrugated iron roof returns around three facades, and accentuates the projections of the windows. The solid render parapet is very ornate and tall for the date of construction. It has panels of decoration along it and is surmounted by a number of render urns.

References --

1 City of Kew, Rate Books

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2.. ibid.

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5 Rogers, D., A History of Kew, p.144

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This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <u>http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/</u>